

Shernhall Pre-School

St Georges Hall, 136 Shernhall Street, London, E17 9HU



Inspection date	24 March 2017
Previous inspection date	21 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Senior staff members are dedicated and knowledgeable. Strong leadership and effective team working contribute to a well-organised provision where all children make good progress.
- Accurate self-evaluation is used to continuously improve the provision and target areas for further development.
- The pre-school has a wide range of interesting and easily accessible resources. This supports children in choosing activities that reflect their current interests.
- The key-person system works well. Staff are very successful in meeting the individual needs of each child, particularly children who are learning to speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs. Staff work effectively with other professionals to support any children who need additional help.
- Partnership with parents is strong. Parents say they are happy with the amount of information they receive about their children's care, learning and development. They say they feel supported by staff and receive help and advice whenever they need it.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities to allow children to complete manageable, routine tasks independently.
- Occasionally, staff do not recognise when to provide children with more time to think about and express their ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- support staff to recognise opportunities to encourage children to complete manageable tasks for themselves to develop their independence as fully as possible
- make greater use of opportunities to allow children to think through, develop and express their ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a number of activities, including outdoor play.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies, children's records, documents relating to the suitability of staff and the nursery's self-evaluation documents.
- The inspector talked to staff, children and parents to gather their views.

Inspector

Ceri Callf

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are confident in their understanding of the signs and symptoms that may give them cause for concern about a child's welfare and the reporting procedures. They know how to identify any children who may be at risk from being exposed to extreme ideas or behaviours. Management is supportive of staff's professional development and staff make very good use of regular training. For example, they introduced new activities tailored to support children who have special educational needs. Staff use a container filled with interesting resources to capture children's interest to support their listening and attention skills. Managers make good use of additional funding to meet children's individual needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

When joining the pre-school, staff quickly and accurately assess children's starting points. Each child's progress is closely monitored and their next steps in learning are carefully planned. Children benefit from interesting learning experiences. For example, they have opportunities to view and handle different animals. This helps them learn about the natural world. Children proudly show cakes they have baked and cards they have made for Mother's Day. These activities help to support their emotional well-being. Children develop good physical skills. For example, they learn to bounce, balance and climb using a wide range of equipment in the outdoor area, which excites and delights them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children receive individual care and attention. They are secure in their relationships with staff. For example, they turn to staff when they need help, receiving gentle support. Children develop a good understanding of a healthy lifestyle. For example, they learn to wash their hands before snacks and after outdoor play. Staff support children's understanding of their local community, for example, they all visit local shops and parks together. Children learn about adults who help to keep them safe and well. They receive visits from the police, firefighters and a dentist. Staff are good role models for children. Children enjoy regular group activities that develop their social and communication skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children behave well and are engaged, active learners. They develop good mathematical skills. For example, older children understand the link between increasing length and larger numbers. Children use wooden 'caterpillars' to count, sort and recognise numbers. They understand the 'oval one' is 'orange' and the 'blue one' is 'four'. Children build towers and measure the height independently, making marks on paper stuck to the wall. They double check their marks to make sure they were accurate in their recording. These skills help prepare them for their next stage of learning, including for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	153685
Local authority	Waltham Forest
Inspection number	1085770
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	96
Number of children on roll	94
Name of registered person	Shernhall Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP910902
Date of previous inspection	21 January 2015
Telephone number	020 8520 6756

Shernhall Pre-School registered in 1992. It is located in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The pre-school is open term time only, Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 3.30pm. There are 16 members of staff, of whom 12 hold relevant early years qualifications from level 2 to level 5. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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