

Cherry Tree Children's Centre

8 Barston Road, London, SE27 9HE



Inspection date

22 June 2017

Previous inspection date

9 June 2014

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

- All children, particularly those who learn best outside, make very good progress in their learning and development from their starting points. Staff provide extensive play opportunities, such as in the large outdoor play area, and children enjoy taking age-appropriate risks in their physical play.
- The staff team has built very good links with the local schools and outside agencies, leading to improvements in the nursery. It is successful in supporting children's move to primary school.
- The key-person system is very effective. For example, children form close relationships with staff and this helps to support their emotional well-being. They are happy, confident and ready to learn through play.
- Staff establish effective partnerships with parents. They share regular information about children's care and learning needs, and offer parents ideas to extend learning further at home. This helps provide good continuity to children's care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although there are systems in place to monitor staff performance, at times, these are not highly effective at promptly identifying some weaker practices and raising the quality of teaching to the highest level possible.
- The new assessment system to track children's progress has just been implemented and does not yet fully or successfully have an impact on staff's planning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on staff's knowledge and skills to help raise the quality of teaching to the highest level possible
- improve systems for monitoring children's progress even further, to provide an even sharper focus on identifying any gaps in learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and held discussions about children's learning.
- The inspector looked at samples of documentation, such as staff's qualifications and suitability records.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff at appropriate times throughout the day and held meetings with the management team.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Josephine Afful

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The staff team monitors the development of individual children and identifies gaps in their learning well overall. It acts promptly to organise extra support. For example, staff work effectively with outside agencies to help children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make the best possible progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a suitable understanding of the nursery's safeguarding policy and knows what action to take should they have any concerns about children's safety or welfare. They are aware of their duty to prevent children being drawn into situations which put them at significant risk of harm. The manager ensures that records, such as complaints and incidents, are kept and easily accessible. Staff regularly risk assess the play areas and supervise children well to help keep them safe. The management team evaluates the effectiveness of the provision well, and includes others when making changes, to help improve outcomes for children. For example, it realised the need to train staff to utilise the learning environment more effectively and this has led to significant improvements in the outdoor learning area.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a good range of resources and activities that inspires children's curiosity to explore. For example, babies become excited when they touch ice cubes and water, experiencing different sensations. Older children competently climb trees and enjoy exploring the mud kitchen. Staff encourage children's communication and language development well. For example, they consistently give clear instructions and skilfully ask children questions that help them to think and speak. Staff carry out assessments to check children's progress and plan for their next stage of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The management team organises regular staff meetings. They discuss behaviour management strategies to help staff learn how to consistently manage children's behaviour. Staff give clear rules and expectations for behaviour and encourage children to share and take turns. This contributes positively to children learning good behaviour. Staff encourage children to learn about their own and other people's similarities and differences. For example, they encourage children to learn about other cultures and value children's home languages.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are very active and develop good physical skills. For example, children learn to walk on tyres and ropes, coordinating and balancing their bodies in different ways. Babies enjoy practising crawling and walking in the well-organised space. Children acquire good early writing skills. For example, some older children can confidently write their names and younger children use a variety of resources, such as paintbrushes, marker pens and large chalks, to make marks. This helps them develop the physical skills needed for writing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466863
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	1100664
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	71
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Rosendale Primary School Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP903473
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2014
Telephone number	02087613835

Cherry Tree Children's Centre registered in 2013. The governing body of Rosendale Primary School manage the nursery. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm each weekday, for 48 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 21 staff who work directly with the children. Of these, 17 hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 and above. This includes one member of staff who holds early years professional status and one member of staff who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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