

Mudchute Farm Day Nursery

Mudchute Farm & Park, Pier Street, London, E14 3HP



Inspection date

18 July 2017

Previous inspection date

11 December 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Parents are extremely happy with the care and learning opportunities the manager and staff provide for their children. The manager and staff successfully engage parents in their children's learning to promote a consistent approach to meeting children's needs.
- Staff help children to develop good personal and social skills. Children learn to cooperate, play and learn together. They are well behaved and learn to follow instructions.
- Children benefit from a broad range of engaging experiences that takes into account their individual interests. Older children behave extremely well and grow into confident individuals who are more than ready for the new challenges of school.
- Leaders have a strong commitment to staff's professional development. Staff are encouraged to improve their qualifications and attend training that increases their skills. For example, staff have attended forest school workshops to better support children who enjoy being outdoors.
- All children have almost continuous access to the magnificent outdoor play spaces. They play exuberantly in the gardens, enthusiastically watering the plants and discussing the butterflies, birds and animals they see.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Leaders and staff do not consistently make the best use of ongoing self-evaluation to identify ways to continually improve their good standards.
- Sometimes, assessments of children's learning and development are not as precise as they could be to support staff to fully target their teaching.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the effectiveness of self-evaluation to regularly review the good standards already achieved and to work towards even higher outcomes for children
- ensure staff use their observations and assessments effectively to ensure assessments are as precise as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children during a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a wide range of documentation, including staff's suitability checks, children's development records and attendance registers.

Inspector

Christine Lamey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are thoroughly trained and know what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Managers follow rigorous recruitment procedures to ensure the suitability of staff. The management team shares daily practices and policies with parents, staff and children to keep them well informed. Parents are very positive about the staff and the setting. Positive support from the leadership for staff helps to ensure that the quality of teaching is, on the whole, consistently good. The manager uses additional funding well to help support children's individual needs and development. For example, outside funding has been secured recently to build the new tree house in the outdoor play space.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are enthusiastic and engage well with children, encouraging them to be confident and independent learners. Children are constantly engaged in activities and staff support their learning well, adapting games and resources to suit their ages and interests. Staff frequently teach children about early mathematics in everyday practical activities. For example, older children learn to count confidently as they play 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' and younger children happily join in with counting songs and rhymes. Children are confident speakers and staff develop their vocabulary well. For instance, they model the correct pronunciation to children to improve their understanding of letters and the sounds they represent.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children spend abundant time outdoors, which greatly contributes to their good health and develops their physical skills. They learn about the environment, such as changes to the weather. They put on sun cream and hats and discuss how the hot weather affects their bodies. Children are regularly reminded to have a drink, particularly in the hot weather. Children enjoy healthy meals and learn to manage tasks independently. For example, very young children are encouraged to put on their shoes and older children clear their plates and stack them after eating. Children learn first hand about looking after living things. For example, frequent visitors from the local farm bring rabbits and guinea pigs for the children to stroke and feed, and children visit the adjacent stables.

Outcomes for children are good

Babies and young children thrive in the calm, homely and nurturing environment. Children make good progress from their starting points. Older children learn to count and recognise numbers, write their names and learn the sounds of letters. They gain good skills that prepare them well for their next stages in learning. Babies delight as they gleefully wave see-through scarves in the air to soothing music and excitedly play peek-a-boo games with the adults and each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283985
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	1070578
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	96
Number of children on roll	96
Name of registered person	The Mudchute Association
Registered person unique reference number	RP905728
Date of previous inspection	11 December 2014
Telephone number	0207 538 8456

Mudchute Farm Day Nursery registered in 2004. It is situated in the grounds of Mudchute Farm and Park in the Isle of Dogs, in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6.30pm for 51 weeks of the year. A playgroup session is held from 9am to midday during term time only. The nursery also provides after-school care from 3pm to 6.30pm, and a playscheme is available in the school holidays from 8am to 6.30pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery currently employs 33 members of staff, of whom two hold qualified teacher status and a further 26 staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 or level 3.

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