

John Smith Childrens Centre

90 Stepney Way, London, E1 2EN



Inspection date

6 November 2017

Previous inspection date

14 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
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 requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has failed to notify of significant changes and does not have a secure knowledge of her responsibility to notify Ofsted of significant changes that affect the childcare she provides.
- Staff do not always recognise opportunities that arise to encourage children's understanding of mathematics.

It has the following strengths

- Staff effectively work with children who need extra support, to help them make good progress from their individual starting points. Staff develop good partnerships with external agencies to help ensure consistency of care and education.
- The manager and staff monitor children's progress well. They identify any gaps in their development and put effective steps in place to support children's achievements.
- Staff work effectively with parents to help meet the needs of children. Parents speak highly of staff. Staff obtain relevant information and share what children have achieved.
- Staff have caring, affectionate and warm relationships with children, who settle quickly, and are independent and confident.
- The manager monitors staff performance to help extend children's learning more effectively. For example, they take part in regular one-to-one supervisory meetings and daily discussions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
■ develop a thorough knowledge of the significant changes and events that must be notified to Ofsted.	27/11/2017

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

- extend further the support for children to develop their mathematical and problem-solving skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspection took place following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the area manager, deputy manager and early years strategic quality manager. The inspector also spoke to staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the area manager and deputy manager about policies and procedures and methods of planning and assessing for children's progress. The inspector also discussed how staff work in partnership with parents and other providers.

Inspector

Caroline Preston

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider has failed to notify Ofsted that a new manager had been appointed. There has also been a failure to notify of previous changes of manager. However, the relevant suitability checks have been carried out for the current manager and so this does not pose a significant risk to children. The manager has appropriate arrangements to inform the relevant agencies about any safeguarding issues. Staff know how to identify signs that a child's welfare maybe compromised. Safeguarding is effective. Staff carry out detailed risk assessments and are vigilant in their supervision of children, particularly outdoors. Staff ensure the premises are safe and secure, to help support children's safety and well-being. Parents are promptly informed of any incidents that may affect their child. The manager supervises staff to help them improve their practice. She follows effective performance management procedures to remind staff of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. Staff have completed further training to help increase their childcare knowledge. For example, staff have improved their skills at encouraging children to talk more. The manager effectively evaluates her provision to make improvements. For example, children now enjoy a fuller range of opportunities for physical play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out detailed observations and assessments of children's progress. They use this information to plan for children's next steps in learning. Staff encourage children to develop their personal, social and emotional development well. For example, children enjoy showing and talking about their 'All about me' box. Staff encourage children's physical development well. For instance children, move with speed and coordination, and ride wheeled toys and run confidently. Staff encourage children's literacy skills well. For example, children enjoy making marks on the ground and handle plenty of writing tools. Staff support children's creative skills and imagination effectively. For example, children enjoy pretend cooking in the mud kitchen.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and staff help them to understand boundaries, for example, through gentle reminders. Young children begin to learn the consequences of their actions. Staff support children's awareness of healthy lifestyles. They enjoy nutritious snacks, drinks and meals. Staff meet children's physical and emotional needs effectively to help them settle and develop. Staff encourage children to learn about the wider world. For example, they celebrate different cultural events. Staff speak some words in children's home languages to aid communication and to positively reflect their home lives.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning, including school. Children who speak English as an additional language, quickly learn to speak English. Children's whose starting point is below typical levels progress rapidly. Children attend to their personal needs well and understand good hygiene routines. Children communicate well with each other and staff. They confidently express their ideas and thoughts.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119578
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	1116935
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	2 - 3
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Registered person unique reference number	RP901219
Date of previous inspection	14 August 2015
Telephone number	0207 364 0537

John Smith Children's Centre opened in 1994. It is situated in Stepney, within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The nursery is open Monday to Friday between 8am and 5.30pm. The provider is in receipt of funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 11 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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