Tadpoles Nursery School

Park Walk Play Centre, Park Walk, London, SW10 0AY



Inspection date	8 February 2018
Previous inspection date	24 September 2013

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

- Communication between the nursery and parents is very effective. Parents are fully informed of activities and experiences provided for children and how to support their learning at home. Staff respond promptly to queries from parents.
- Staff help children well to develop good language skills to communicate effectively. For example, children participate in small groups to promote speaking and listening.
- Children learn to be independent and to manage their personal needs well. For example, they help to cut fruit for snack time and change their own clothes for swimming.
- Staff prepare children well for school. Children develop good social skills, self-esteem and confidence.
- Parents have first-rate opportunities to be involved in the life of the nursery, such as helping with activities and accompanying children on outings. The nursery also provides superb opportunities for parents to socialise and get to know each other.
- Staff promote respect for others very well. For example, children learn how to play cooperatively together and how to express their feelings and emotions appropriately.
- Children learn about people in the community that are different to themselves. For example, they participate in fundraising activities for local charities with staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

Management does not monitor staff's practice as closely as it could to focus their support even more, to provide consistently high-quality teaching.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

strengthen further the systems for monitoring staff, to provide more support to ensure the quality of teaching and learning is of a consistently very high standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at relevant documents, including a sample of policies, procedures and children's assessment records.
- The inspector looked at the quality of teaching and learning environment inside and outdoors.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of teaching and learning with one of the managers.
- The inspector spoke to the managers, staff, parents and children.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding children with staff and checked the nursery's safeguarding policy.

Inspector

Carlene Bremner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership team ensures that staff are up to date with changes to child protection procedures. All staff understand how to keep children safe and know how to identify indicators that might suggest concerns about a child's welfare. Safeguarding is effective. Staff provide a wide range of highly stimulating toys and equipment for children, and use these well overall to support all aspects of children's learning and development. Management robustly tracks children's development to identify and close gaps in children's learning promptly. Self-evaluation is effective. The management team reflects well on practice overall, to identify areas to improve children's experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan exciting activities for the children. The environment is organised attractively in ways that support the children's independence. Staff have established effective systems to record children's progress in their learning. They provide parents with regular updates of their children's development and ideas of how they can support their child's learning at home. Staff use their knowledge of the children to effectively plan for the next steps in their learning. Children thoroughly enjoy themselves and benefit from additional opportunities for learning, such as swimming and outdoor activities in the local area and beyond, which keep them physically active and motivated to learn new things.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled. Staff promote their well-being effectively. They are good role models and manage children's behaviour consistently. Staff support parents well to provide healthy choices for lunch. Children sit together to eat their packed lunches and learn how sharing their food could be harmful to those with allergies. Children have good opportunities to learn more about the impact of a healthy diet on their bodies as they grow, care for and cook their own vegetables from the garden. Staff have established strong relationships with the children and their parents. Staff are highly praised by parents, who describe the setting as a warm, caring and nurturing environment for their children. Staff's links with local schools provide positive experiences for children moving on to school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn the basics of literacy and numeracy. They receive good support for moving on to school. For example, they have many opportunities to develop writing skills, such as making letter shapes in coloured sand and writing their initials on their artwork. Children are highly motivated and keen to learn. They make good progress from their starting points and demonstrate what they know as they play together. Children are confident to ask questions to extend their own learning and behave well.

Setting details

Unique reference number 105738

Local authority Kensington & Chelsea

Inspection number 1061156

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 68

Number of children on roll 117

Name of registered person Claire Dimpfl

Registered person unique

reference number

RP904454

Date of previous inspection 24 September 2013

Telephone number 0207 3529757

Tadpoles Nursery School registered in 1993. It operates in Chelsea, in the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. It is open Monday to Thursday from 9.05am to 3.30pm, and Fridays from 9.05am to 12.30pm during term time only. There is a drop-off option from Monday to Friday at 8.45am for children over three years of age. The nursery employs 21 staff, 20 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3.

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