

Little Elms Daycare Sydenham

246 Perry Hill, LONDON SE6 4HD



Inspection date	8 October 2018
Previous inspection date	20 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The managers and staff are warm and friendly. They provide a welcoming and stimulating environment for children and parents. Every child is valued and generally well supported.
- All staff understand the importance of keeping children safe. They know the procedure to follow should they have any concerns about a child's well-being. Safeguarding knowledge is refreshed and updated routinely by managers.
- Staff effectively plan indoor activities for children's individual needs and abilities. Activities are exciting and inviting, and children are eager to explore. All children make good progress.
- Management has an accurate understanding of what the setting does well and where improvements can be made. This is achieved through focused assessment visits to each room and incisive, measurable targets for improvement.
- Management has identified gaps in provision for children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, and is putting additional support in place to address this.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not ensure outdoor activities are sufficiently planned and adapted to achieve maximum benefit for children who learn best outside during their limited time in the garden.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise the use of the outdoor space to create a highly stimulating environment so that children who enjoy being outside can develop a wide range of skills as they play and explore in the shared garden area.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play and staff interactions at the setting.
- The inspector spoke to the children, staff and managers at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a selection of children's assessment records and the provider's planning, policies and procedures, and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises, indoors and outdoors, used by children.

Inspector

Trina Lynskey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The managers and staff are clear about their roles in safeguarding children. They understand the correct procedures to follow should they have any concerns about the welfare of a child and they know what to do if an allegation is made against a member of staff. Policies and procedures are updated annually and available for parents to view. Parents speak positively about the nursery and many have recommended it to others. The views of staff, parents, children and others are sought and considered to continually improve the provision. Emerging concerns about specific groups or individual children are identified early and swiftly addressed. Staff use regular supervisory sessions with management to identify training needs and improve practice. Staff have been supported to progress their careers, for example, from starting as bank staff to becoming a qualified room leader.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy a range of indoor experiences. For example, they enjoy a painting activity exploring the textures and colours of autumn. Supporting activities provide children with the vocabulary to talk confidently about their artistic creations. Staff act on the children's interests, introduce new concepts and extend learning with skilled questioning. Managers have acted on a previous inspection recommendation and increased opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills. Children have opportunities to learn about and explore the differences between people. An ongoing project where groups of children visit a care home for older people has been enjoyed by both children and adults. Staff use their regular observations to plan children's next steps in learning and these are shared with parents to promote home learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to settle quickly and to feel secure with their key person. Parents comment on the flexible and tailored approach to the settling process, which increases children's confidence. Staff are good role models and provide a calm and nurturing environment for children to learn. Children's independence is promoted across the nursery. The youngest children learn to use spoons. Pre-school children put on their own coats, manage their own toileting and independently wash their hands. Staff support children's self-confidence with ongoing praise and encouragement. Children confidently explore a broad range of resources in the indoor environment. Children of all ages learn about the benefits of healthy eating and good hygiene procedures.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, settle quickly and grow in confidence. Overall, children are working within the expected levels of development for their ages and in relation to their starting points. Children are building very early writing skills and use a range of mark-making equipment. They are developing their small-muscle movements and hand-eye coordination through various activities. They play well alongside each other and together while learning important academic skills, such as numeracy and mathematical language. Children are prepared well for their futures, including starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440075
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	10064614
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	104
Name of registered person	Little Elms Daycare Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902320
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2016
Telephone number	02086999481

Little Elms Daycare Sydenham registered in January 2012. It is located in Sydenham in the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am until 6pm, for 52 weeks of the year, apart from on public bank holidays. It receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 17 staff, including the manager. There are 16 staff who hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the deputy manager who holds a degree in early years.

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