

The Learning Tree Pre School



Timebridge Centre, Fieldway, New Addington CR0 9AZ

Inspection date	16 November 2018
Previous inspection date	15 June 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 manager takes effective steps to raise standards and uses the views of others to reflect on and improve practice. She regularly monitors the quality of teaching and ensures that staff receive appropriate training to support children in their learning.
- Staff regularly observe and assess children's learning. They plan activities that reflect children's interests and build on what they need to learn next. Two-year-olds show high levels of interest in washing the cars that they are playing with. Staff successfully encourage them to use words and simple sentences to describe the cars.
- Staff promote children's good communication and language skills. They encourage younger children to repeat words back to them to help increase their vocabulary. They ask a range of challenging questions to support children's imaginative play when they use sand to make 'cakes' and 'biscuits'.
- Staff form effective partnerships with a range of professionals. They work closely together to provide consistent care and support for children. This is particularly evident for those children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, opportunities are missed to support toddlers to learn to manage their own feelings and behaviour.
- Opportunities for staff to reflect upon and share best practice across the team are not yet fully embedded.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities for staff to consistently support toddlers to learn to manage their feelings and behaviour
- extend opportunities for staff to reflect upon the learning experiences provided at the pre-school and share best practice across the whole team.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate a good knowledge about the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child. The manager has implemented an effective system of supervision and training for all staff. She has strong partnerships with the local authority adviser. They work closely together and she values regular support with developments to practice. Focused action plans support continual improvements to the quality of provision. Staff systematically identify actions to be taken and review the impact of developments on outcomes for children. For example, the staff team are currently developing the learning environment to provide even more challenging learning opportunities and enhance children's independence in their self-chosen activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their qualifications and information from training well to provide an interesting and stimulating range of activities to engage and motivate children. Staff skilfully follow children's interests while they play. For example, two-year-olds are highly motivated to build towers using large construction blocks. Staff introduce new mathematical language during this activity and encourage children to use words, such as 'bigger' and 'tall', to describe their towers. The manager works with staff to regularly review children's progress, identify any achievement gaps and address these quickly.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form secure attachments with all staff and this helps to promote their emotional well-being and confidence. They show that they feel safe, secure and ready to learn. They move around the environment purposefully and enthusiastically. Staff have established good routines to support children's independence. For example, they take responsibility for tidying up at the end of the session and learn how to put their coats on before they go outside. Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff have implemented a range of strategies to involve parents in their children's learning. They comment that they particularly appreciate the home learning packs and home communication books to provide continuity between home and pre-school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop skills that prepare them well for the next stage in their learning and the move to school. This includes children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who receive additional funding. Children develop good physical skills. They are keen to demonstrate their skills as they dance and move to their favourite songs. Children show persistence, enthusiasm and great motivation to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396707
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10062377
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	The Learning Tree Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904636
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2016
Telephone number	01689 845711

The Learning Tree Pre School registered in 2009. It is located in New Addington, in Croydon. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9.15am to 2.45pm during term time only. The setting employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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