

Palm Tree Academy

The Salvation Army, Local Community Centre Nunhead, 217a Gordon Road, LONDON SE15 3RT



Inspection date	29 November 2018
Previous inspection date	2 November 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children enjoy being with the staff and the opportunity to see their friends outside school. Children are particularly complimentary about the food they eat at the club and discuss their favourite dishes from the menu.
- Recruitment procedures are thorough. The managers complete suitability checks, which helps to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. These are readily available for inspection
- There are effective partnerships between staff, parents and teachers. Children experience consistent care from an experienced and enthusiastic staff team.
- Quality food, opportunities for exercise and discussions about health supports children's physical well-being successfully. All staff hold paediatric first aid certificates and have good knowledge of how to apply first aid if necessary.
- The managers have worked hard to address the actions and recommendation raised at the last inspection. For example, staff now deploy themselves effectively so that children's needs are met consistently.
- Staff do not gather enough information about children's interests and experiences when they first start to help them get to know the children and make the most of their time in the club as they settle in.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to gather information about children before they start to ensure their individual needs and interests are understood.

Inspection activities

- The inspector joined staff and children on the route from school to the club.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises, both indoors and outdoors, used by children.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children during play activities.
- The inspector sampled a selection of children's records, policies, procedures and a range of other documentation.

Inspector

Trina Lynskey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures and child protection issues. Two experienced and highly qualified staff members support the manager. The managers and staff seek the views of parents and children when they evaluate the setting. Children contribute to session planning. The activities provided reflect children's interests and support their future learning. Staff conduct daily setting risk assessments to ensure ongoing safety and hygiene. Staff perform further risk assessments if required. For example, a member of staff assesses the playground before use by the group. Staff come together for a briefing before and after each club session. Regular staff supervision and appraisal addresses individual training needs. The staff team is content, and they enjoy their roles at the club.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use the route from the school to the setting as a learning experience. The youngest children form pairs with older peers for the journey. Children assess risks along the route including crossing roads and other hazards like slippery leaves. Children make collective decisions about group activities. For example, when children arrive at the setting they can vote to go to the playground before going inside. This gives children a strong sense of ownership of the club and its management. The setting is comfortable, clean and well laid out. This supports a relaxed learning environment after a long day at school. Children choose from a range of easily accessible resources. Staff move between activities. They ensure the youngest and newest children integrate well into the wider group. Staff ask children to explain what they are doing and praise their efforts. Children are confident communicators. They proudly present their work to each other and to staff. Children take part in creative activities to celebrate various cultural events. This helps them to understand the world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The evening meal is a key strength at this club. Children receive a nutritious meal cooked by the staff team on site. Children take on various roles to help mealtimes run smoothly. This includes laying the table, serving their peers and tidying up afterwards. Staff eat with the children and skilfully guide conversation to include everyone. Children share experiences from their school day and their home life. Throughout the session staff encourage children to take leadership roles and responsibilities. Children take responsibility for the management of daily routines. Older children include younger children in activities and take time to explain games and activities to them. Staff role model the good behaviour expected of children. This includes good manners, helping and listening to the views of others. Overall children are happy and have an enjoyable time at the club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490903
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	10077444
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	4 - 13
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Marsh, Alishea Cara
Registered person unique reference number	RP514373
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2017
Telephone number	020 7732 0117

Palm Tree Academy registered in 2015. It is located in the Nunhead area in the London Borough of Southwark. The setting is open from 3.30pm to 6.30pm on Monday to Friday during term time, and provides a service during some school holidays. Two staff and the manager work directly with the children. A fourth member of staff provides cover as required. The manager holds a qualification at level 6. One staff member is a qualified teacher and another holds a qualification at level 2.

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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