

Little St Matthias Pre School

St Matthias Community Centre, Poplar High Street, London E14 0AE



Inspection date	14 June 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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

This provision is good

- The management team and staff interact well with the children and have a good understanding of child development. They make regular observations and use their accurate assessments to monitor children's learning and progress successfully.
- Self-evaluation is effective. The management team regularly gathers feedback from parents, staff and children to help reflect on the quality of the provision and staff practice. Managers implement effective changes to ensure positive outcomes for children. For example, they have introduced parents' meetings where staff and parents have the opportunity to discuss children's learning and how they can be more involved.
- Partnerships with parents and external agencies are strong. The management team and staff work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, have effective support to help close any gaps in children's learning.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models to children and develop warm and caring relationships. This supports children's emotional well-being successfully.
- Sometimes, staff do not use activities as well as possible to provide more challenges for older children and extend their learning further.
- Occasionally, staff do not use all opportunities to help extend children's mathematical knowledge of shapes, quantities, and their ability to compare objects.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use activities more effectively to help challenge older children's learning even further and enhance the quality of their experiences
- make greater use of opportunities to help children develop their mathematical understanding to a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including accident, incident and injuries records, policies and procedures, including the safeguarding policy and children's records.
- The inspector toured the premises with the manager and discussed safeguarding, including risk assessments.

Inspector
Marvet Gayle

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff carry out thorough risk assessments to identify hazards and help keep children safe. Staff are well deployed. They supervise children well and ensure they are safe. Staff are confident in their ability to promote children's welfare. They record accidents, incidents and injuries to children and inform parents on the day. They follow the appropriate procedures when dealing with complaints and concerns. Management and staff are clear on the correct reporting procedure to follow to ensure children are safe. Staff recruitment and vetting procedures are thorough. The management team evaluates the quality of the provision and staff practice well and makes improvements that help to promote better outcomes for children. The manager and deputy manager regularly review staff's ongoing suitability and the quality of teaching through observation of staff's practice and regular supervision meetings. Staff keep their professional knowledge up to date. For example, they use skills gained from safeguarding training to help promote children's safety. The majority of staff are trained in paediatric first aid, to help support children's health and well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The management team and staff work well together to provide good-quality learning experiences for all children. Babies excitedly explore their environment using their senses. They practise using bricks to build a tower with staff support and knock them over as they giggle excitedly. Staff support young children's walking skills well. They encourage older children to count and use numbers during play. For example, staff count with children as they play number games. Staff support older children's speaking and listening skills effectively. For instance, children listen to stories as staff read to them. They ask questions and give children time to respond. Staff provide opportunities to help children become independent and confident in carrying out some tasks, such as, washing their hands before lunch and allowing older children to serve themselves. They encourage children's writing and early reading skills well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children to develop good understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They provide nutritious snacks and well-balanced meals, which children enjoy. Staff support children to follow good hygiene routines and enjoy daily exercise. They help children form strong attachments to their key person and other staff, which build their confidence and self-esteem successfully. Older children play well together. They have a good understanding of right and wrong, share resources and take turns well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a wide range of skills, which prepare them well for their future learning and starting school. Older children draw, make marks and learn about written text, while younger children begin to explore with sounds and make music as they explore. Older children show good levels of independence, motivation and self-help skills. They speak confidently, listen to one another well and help each other with tasks such as tidying away the toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537120
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	10089716
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	1st Step Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP537119
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07792766329

Little St Matthias Pre School registered in 2017. It is situated in Poplar in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The pre-school is open from Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round. It is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 11 members of staff. Two hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 6, three at level 3, three at level 2 and three are unqualified.

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