

Inspection of Forest Hill Nursery

Living Springs International Church, 8-10 Devonshire Road, LONDON SE23 3TJ

Inspection date: 16 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy, relaxed and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure at the nursery. Staff have high expectations for children's learning. They are warm and friendly, and children join in with interest and enthusiasm. Children enjoy doing the calendar at the start of the day and staff use this opportunity to teach them about the days of the week, the months of the year, the seasons and the weather. Children also show good attention and enjoyment as they listen to familiar stories with puppets. Staff are good at naming and introducing new language to children. However, some inconsistency in their questioning means that opportunities are sometimes missed to fully develop children's thinking skills. Children have fun making play dough and staff use lots of mathematical language as they explore colours, shapes and sizes. Staff also initiate fun and interactive colour matching games. Children have frequent opportunities to be active. For instance, they play outdoors in the nursery garden and regularly visit the local park. Although children have a range of different meals and snacks throughout the week, there is scope to offer children more variety and for staff to make better use of mealtimes to teach children about healthy food choices.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The manager and staff have made significant improvements since their last inspection. They have addressed the previous actions and show that they work well as a team together. Self-evaluation is much more focused and the team has plans to continue to enhance and develop some aspects of the nursery even further.
- Staff plan a range of fun activities that help children to build on their skills and knowledge. Their aim is for children to develop a love of learning and be well prepared for school, when the time comes. Staff know children very well and plan next steps in their learning that support their development effectively. Children make good progress and enjoy attending.
- Children show that they are happy and comfortable. They have very good bonds with the staff and each other. Staff create an atmosphere that is warm, nurturing and encouraging.
- Staff are good role models. They frequently offer explanations and give praise as children play. Children behave very well and consistently show good levels of engagement and interest in the activities. They show consideration for each other, including good turn-taking and social skills.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities have very good support. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals and engage in specialised training to be able to meet children's individual needs.
- Children have good opportunities to learn about different cultures and to discuss their similarities and differences. This is apparent when they learn about

different festivals such as Christmas and Diwali and events such as Black History Month.

- Staff show good commitment to keeping their professional development up to date. For instance, all staff have undertaken recent first-aid training and they have regular staff meetings and supervision meetings to reflect on their childcare practices. Staff state that they feel well supported in their role.
- Overall, parents are happy with the care and learning their children receive. Some comment on improved feedback on their children's progress and more opportunities for participation in organised nursery events. However, others say that they would like more detailed feedback at the end of the day and that there remains scope for further improvement.
- Children eat a range of meals and snacks throughout the week that provide a balanced diet overall. However, in the lack of variety of meals offered and the limited discussions about making healthy food choices, opportunities are missed to enhance children's understanding of the importance of adopting healthy lifestyles.
- Children go on frequent trips to the local museum and gardens, the library and the shops. This helps them to learn about their local community and the wider world.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There are thorough recruitment procedures in place to help ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. In addition, there is a detailed induction process to support staff to understand their safeguarding responsibilities and daily duties. Staff engage in regular training and discussions at staff meetings to keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date. They can confidently discuss possible signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and the action they should take to seek additional support for the child. Staff carry out daily checks and complete risk assessments to help minimise hazards in the environment.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen staff's questioning to extend and challenge children's thinking skills further
- offer a wider variety of meals and snacks and make better use of opportunities to talk about the importance of healthy lifestyles.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446524
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	10101728
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Sophia Blankson and Joel Ajala Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP531598
Telephone number	02082911960
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2019

Information about this early years setting

Forest Hill Nursery registered in 2012 and is located in Forest Hill, in the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year round. There are four staff who work at the setting, all of whom hold a recognised early years qualification at level 2 or 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Mckenzie

Inspection activities

- A 'learning walk' was completed by the manager and the inspector to provide an overview of the nursery's expectations for the quality of education.
- The inspector observed a range of activities and assessed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation together and evaluated the learning for children.
- A number of parents were spoken to and their views were taken into consideration.
- A range of documentation was viewed, including staff suitability checks and qualifications.

We carried out this inspection 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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