

Inspection of LEYF London Fields Nursery & Pre-School

Wilde Close, London E8 4JS

Inspection date: 12 October 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy at this friendly, welcoming nursery. They show that they feel safe and secure through their positive engagement and attitudes towards learning. Children arrive eagerly at the nursery and are keen to go inside. They quickly become engaged in their chosen activities.

Children particularly enjoy playing in the outdoor area. Staff help children to understand the natural world through practical experiences. For instance, children grow vegetables and have recently started to use their compost heap and wormery. Children develop their coordination as they negotiate an obstacle course or manoeuvre over the climbing frame. This supports their physical development very well.

Children are curious and show a willingness to have a go and try new things. For example, toddlers join in making play dough; they scoop flour and mix in oil and food dye, delighting in the changing texture and colour. Children respond positively to the high expectations and gentle guidance of staff. Children listen well and move between the routines with minimal disruption. They gain the knowledge and skills they need for the eventual move to school.

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

- Parents speak positively about the nursery and the manager. They value the outside space and the opportunities children have to get fresh air and exercise daily. Parents talk about the strong bonds their children have formed with staff and their 'caring and loving' attitude.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, the nursery closed and children were moved to 'hub' nurseries. Staff have worked hard, since recently returning to the nursery, to ensure children feel settled and have a sense of belonging. This is supporting children's emotional well-being effectively.
- The curriculum is well designed, and staff know children well. Staff carefully follow children's individual interests and confidently use information from assessments to plan enjoyable activities for them. Staff closely monitor the progress children make. They identify any gaps in children's learning and implement plans to help them catch up. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children develop a love of books and enjoy listening to stories. Toddlers eagerly go and fetch their favourite books, which they give to staff. Staff are excellent storytellers and engage children well with the stories. Children point to the pictures and talk about what they see.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of increasing children's language and communication skills. Staff use signs with younger children, repeat words and

support children to extend their vocabulary. Older children engage in meaningful conversations and share their ideas. Staff use small language groups to help close gaps in children's learning, so no child is left behind.

- The manager has regular supervisions with staff and monitors their practice. She recognises the impact of COVID-19 on her team and places a high importance on staff well-being. The manager supports staff to address any areas for improvement and to continue to provide high-quality care. Staff state that the manager is supportive. They comment that despite being a new team they are getting to know one another and growing in strength.
- Children behave well and are confident. Staff have high expectations for children. They support them well to make independent choices and carry out tasks for themselves. For example, older children tidy up after lunch and younger children know to wait patiently to go down the stairs to the garden.
- Staff focus on children's emotional well-being. They ensure children feel safe and secure. Older children enjoy meditation sessions and effective settling-in procedures ensure babies quickly build bonds with staff. However, at times, this focus on reassurance means that more able children do not get the challenge they need to extend their learning to the highest level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff regularly check toys and the environment to ensure that they are safe for children. Daily risk assessments ensure the building is safe and secure. The manager ensures staff understand their duties to safeguard children. Staff identify signs that would give them cause for concern about children's welfare. They know how to make child protection referrals. The manager is proactive in working with safeguarding partners to ensure that together they protect children from harm. New staff are supported to understand how to keep children safe through a comprehensive induction process. Staff receive regular safeguarding training through courses, staff meetings and supervisions. The manager ensures that staff continue to be suitable to work with children through regular supervision and checks.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to ensure that all children are challenged and have opportunity to develop their learning to the highest level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2561570
Local authority	Hackney
Inspection number	10209802
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	The London Early Years Foundation
Registered person unique reference number	RP901332
Telephone number	0207 254 7359
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

LEYF London Fields Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2019. It is based in the London Borough of Hackney. The nursery is open 8am to 6pm on weekdays for most of the year. The nursery has 14 staff. Of these, 13 hold an early years qualification at level 2 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anna Hindhaugh-Feldman

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the nursery and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The manager and inspector conducted a learning walk to discuss the curriculum and how it is implemented.
- The inspector observed children indoors and outdoors. She spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

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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