

Inspection of Beechwood School Nursery

55 Leigham Court Road, London SW16 2NJ

Inspection date: 4 January 2023

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Recent changes in staffing have had a significant impact on the quality of this nursery. Staff are not sufficiently knowledgeable about the nursery's health and safety policies and procedures. For example, staff do not change their aprons and gloves between nappy changes and do not clean tables effectively before children's mealtimes. This puts children at risk of cross-infection. Staff do not carry out risk assessments fully, which means that the environment is not always safe. Fire evacuation plans are insufficient and do not include all areas of the premises. Staff do not give enough consideration to arrangements to keep children safe. Ofsted has not been notified of all company directors, which is a breach of requirements. However, this does not have a significant impact on children's safety as some directors do not work with children.

At times, staff's interactions adequately support children's learning. For example, they explore the texture of sandy soil with a small group of children and demonstrate how to use scissors. However, this practice is not consistent across the staff team. This results in children not benefiting from the resources and activities provided. Despite this, children are well settled and build good relationships with their peers. They play well alongside each other and talk about their friends who are not in on the day of the inspection. The manager is ambitious in her plans for the curriculum. However, she has not considered how to support staff to implement the curriculum to meet the needs of all children.

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

- Children's behaviour is not well managed. Poorly planned daily routines and long waiting times during transitions do not adequately support children's needs. This means that children become restless and distracted, resulting in chaotic periods where children run around. This causes accidents and makes it difficult for children to settle down for their lunch and sleep times. Staff do not use effective strategies to manage children's behaviour at times. For example, they physically guide children rather than explaining what they want them to do.
- Staff do not know children's interests and learning needs sufficiently. They plan activities that do not consistently provide suitable challenge or stimulate children's learning and development. When children are interested in activities, they show perseverance in mastering new skills, such as keeping the lid on a teapot as they pour. However, a lack of variety in activities means that this is not sustained throughout the day, and children are not consistently engaged in their learning.
- Staff do not support children's communication and language development effectively. They do not consistently use their interactions to build on children's vocabulary and confidence. Staff use questions and give instructions, but do not

use opportunities during children's play and mealtimes to engage them in conversations. There are limited opportunities for children to explore books and stories.

- Staff know which children speak English as an additional language. However, they do not use strategies that enable children to hear and learn their home languages at the setting.
- There are suitable arrangements in place to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The special educational needs coordinator is developing links with other professionals to strengthen consistency in the care of children with SEND.
- Children have opportunities to learn self-help skills. They learn to wash their hands before meals and put on their shoes and coats to go outdoors. However, the weaknesses in risk assessment and hygiene practices mean that children do not learn to keep themselves safe.
- Children are offered healthy meals and snacks throughout the day. Each child has their own water bottle to use. However, staff do not help children to understand the importance of staying hydrated throughout the day. For example, water is not offered with meals, which means that some children do not get enough water during the day.
- Parents report that communication is effective. They receive information on how to support their children's learning at home. Parents particularly like the access their children have to the outdoors.
- The manager is highly ambitious in her plans for the nursery. She has given consideration to what she wants children to learn and how the curriculum will be offered. However, she has not yet supported the new staff team to understand about the learning intentions for children and how these will be achieved.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff do not understand the policies and procedures that are designed to keep children safe. They do not carry out risk assessments thoroughly, which puts children at risk of accidents. Poor hygiene practice puts children's health at risk. There are sufficient staff members with paediatric first-aid qualifications to deal with minor injuries. Staff record and report all accidents to parents. Leaders and managers have a good understanding of safe recruitment procedures, which ensures that only suitable staff are employed. This includes ensuring that all staff who work with children hold valid Disclosure and Barring Service checks. Staff can identify the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. They know how to report any concerns, including whistle-blowing concerns about colleagues.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
review and improve routines so that children are supported during transition times and their behaviour is managed appropriately	03/02/2023
implement a broad curriculum that ensures all children receive the appropriate level of challenge to support consistent progress in children's learning and development	03/02/2023
enhance the provision to support children's communication and language development, including for children who speak English as an additional language	03/02/2023
improve risk assessment arrangements to ensure that staff identify all risks in the environment and understand how to minimise them to keep children safe	31/01/2023
improve fire evacuation plans to consider escape routes from all areas of the building	31/01/2023
improve hygiene practices to minimise risks to children's health	31/01/2023
provide staff with training to help them to understand their roles and improve their teaching skills and knowledge of how to manage children's behaviour	28/02/2023
review and improve the arrangements for monitoring staff's performance	28/02/2023
ensure that Ofsted is provided with information about all directors so that suitability checks can be made.	31/01/2023

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

- support children to access water throughout the day and help them to understand about having regular drinks to keep hydrated.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY386062
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10266546
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Court Green Investments Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP911204
Telephone number	02086778778
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

Beechwood School Nursery registered in 2008 and is located in the London Borough of Lambeth. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, including the manager. Of these, nine members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7am to 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kyrstie Gennoe

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children to hear their views.
- The manager and inspector carried out joint observations and shared their findings.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.

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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