

Inspection of Tom Thumb Day Nursery

1-7 Beulah Path, London E17 9LZ

Inspection date: 7 March 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happy and settle quickly to play with their friends. Parents come into the nursery to drop off and collect their children. They exchange information with friendly and caring staff. Babies are warmly greeted and snuggle in for cuddles with staff, demonstrating that they feel safe and secure. Children develop strong nurturing bonds with the kind and familiar staff. Children make independent choices and access a range of well-organised resources. They confidently explore the spacious environment.

Children have a positive attitude to their learning, and take part in activities with enthusiasm and excitement. For example, after reading a story about fairies that cannot fly, older children begin to draw and decorate fairy pictures using a wide range of art materials.

Staff promote diversity well. The staff plan cooking activities weekly, which include traditional recipes to embrace children's cultures. Staff support bilingual children to use their home languages during their play. Trips in the community help children to learn about other cultures and what makes them unique. Children play very well together. They are kind and thoughtful. Children's behaviour is good. All children make good progress from their starting points.

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

- Staff have a good understanding of how young children learn and develop. They use their observations and assessments to build on what children already know and can do. Staff are clear about what they intend children to learn.
- Children demonstrate good memory and understanding as they recall previous science experiments, using oil and water. Staff promote opportunities for children to discuss what they already know, supporting them to remember key vocabulary, such as 'chemical reaction', when they create patterns using pipettes filled with vinegar, bicarbonate soda and food colouring. Children are inquisitive learners and develop good problem-solving skills.
- Staff promote children's communication and language well. They actively engage children in conversations, ask questions and give children time to respond. Toddlers are encouraged to add words together and learn new vocabulary. Staff enthusiastically share stories and sing with older children to increase their confidence in communicating. Staff babble with babies, use facial expressions, and introduce new single words during circle time. However, at times, some adult-led group times can be a little long, meaning that babies can lose focus.
- Staff plan exciting activities to support children to gain a wide range of physical skills. For instance, children make marks with pipettes, pens, brushes, and glue and pick up an assortment of different shaped stickers with their fingers. This

helps them strengthen their fine motor skills. However, at times, staff do not to extend mathematical learning and vocabulary during older children's free play, particularly in relation to shapes, counting and measures, to increase their understanding.

- Children in this nursery are encouraged to be independent. For example, they develop good manners as they help each other at lunchtime and set up the table for lunch. Children are very independent, which develops their confidence in their own abilities. Staff teach children about healthy lifestyles. The cook prepares healthy snacks in the on-site kitchen. Staff talk to children about which foods are healthy. This supports children's health.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff are positive role models. They provide lots of praise and encouragement to children. Staff model how to take turns. Children go on to copy the positive example provided and they share resources well.
- Parents are very happy with the nursery. Staff have built strong partnerships with them, and they feel informed about what their child is learning. Parents say that they are provided with good support for their children to get them prepared for their next stage of education.
- Managers seek training opportunities for staff to further develop their knowledge. Regular supervisions with staff are carried out, with targets set to support them in their roles. Managers support staff well-being and evaluate workloads. The staff report that they feel supported and a valued member of the team.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff in the nursery are knowledgeable about safeguarding children. They are aware of the signs and symptoms that might indicate a child may be at risk of harm or neglect. Staff are confident to report any allegations independently and understand the recording and reporting procedures. Staff complete regular training and speak confidently about wider safeguarding issues in society, such as the 'Prevent' duty. Robust risk assessments are completed to ensure children's safety within the nursery. Staff supervise the children well. Children learn about keeping themselves safe outdoors.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review adult-led group times for babies to reduce long periods of sitting
- build on teaching skills for mathematics to help older children extend their knowledge of new concepts, such as shape, counting and measure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340450
Local authority	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Inspection number	10235041
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	51
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	Little Angels (London) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP520441
Telephone number	02085 201 329
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2017

Information about this early years setting

Tom Thumb Day Nursery registered in 2008. It is situated in Walthamstow, in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The nursery is open every weekday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. It is in receipt of funding for free nursery education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs nine members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The managers and the inspector carried out a learning walk together to discuss the intentions for children's learning.
- The deputy manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation and discussed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers and the provider about safeguarding, and how they reflect on and evaluate the provision.
- The inspector sampled relevant documents, including paediatric first-aid certificates, staff's qualifications and suitability checks.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023