

The Cornerstone Pre-School

149 Canterbury Road, Leyton, London, E10 6EH



Inspection date 9 July 2015
Previous inspection date 7 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The ambitious staff team provides children with an exceptional range of attractive resources, both inside and outside. As a result, children are highly motivated and eager to explore their environment.
- The well-qualified and experienced management team is highly effective in driving forward improvement. They closely monitor children's progress and actively seek feedback from staff, parents and children in their pursuit of achieving high standards of education and care.
- Children benefit from the exceptional relationships they have with the caring and attentive staff team. As a result, children are emotionally secure and develop positive relationships with staff and their peers.
- Children are extremely safe in the pre-school because staff are fully aware of policies and procedures to safeguard them. All staff have completed relevant safeguarding training and understand correct measures to follow, should they have any concerns.
- A significant number of staff hold current paediatric first aid qualifications and know how to effectively deal with minor accidents and emergencies.
- Partnerships with parents are wholly effective. The staff team implements a joint approach to promoting children's learning both in the setting and at home.
- Staff promote children's independence skills extremely well. They encourage children to freely access a range of resources to extend their play. Consequently, children learn to successfully make decisions and lead their own play.
- Staff establish secure links with local schools and nurseries. This suitably prepares children for their next stage in learning and significantly eases the transfer process.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to develop their information and technology skills further, particularly the use of computers.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff and observed their teaching practices.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents to take account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a wide range of documentation including staff suitability files and children's development records.

Inspector

Bushra Khan

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The staff team demonstrates an excellent understanding of the requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Consequently, children flourish in a highly challenging and vibrant learning environment. Staff promote children's communication and language development exceptionally well. As a result, children speak clearly and purposefully to one another using an increasingly wide range of vocabulary. Further to this, staff provide extensive opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills, and they encourage them to identify and write their own names. Children confidently use an array of technology-based resources, such as telephones and calculators to extend their imaginative play. This allows children to make advances in information technology. However, they have less frequent opportunities to use the computers to strengthen their skills further. Staff accurately complete detailed observations and assessments of all children. They successfully use this information to inform future planning and identify children's next steps in learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Staff foster children's personal, social and emotional development to great effect by enabling children to develop high levels of confidence and self-esteem. This lays a solid foundation for their future learning. For example, children listen carefully to staff and to each other; they work together very well in small groups and keenly share ideas. Furthermore, children's behaviour is exemplary. This is because staff are excellent role models. Staff prioritise children's well-being and effectively teach them how to keep safe, for example, by ensuring they handle resources carefully. Children have access to an extensive range of outdoor play equipment to develop their physical skills, such as climbing, jumping and balancing. Children thoroughly enjoy accessing daily fresh air and staff teach them about the importance of healthy eating during mealtimes.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The management team is fully aware of its responsibility in implementing the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Consequently, staff carry out detailed risk assessments to ensure that the premises are safe and secure for all children. The manager implements robust arrangements for the recruitment and induction of new staff, to ensure all adults are suitable to work with children. In addition, the manager places great importance on promoting continuous professional development. For example, staff have received specific training on how to effectively support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities to help them make progress from their starting points on entry. Overall, staff and children benefit greatly from the tailored support and training opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	155085
Local authority	Waltham Forest
Inspection number	826032
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	The Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2011
Telephone number	02085568585

The Cornerstone Pre-School registered in 1998. It is situated in Leyton, in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The provision is open each weekday from 9am to 3.30pm, during school term time. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 13 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6.

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