

Southover Pre-School

12 Southover, London, N12 7JE



Inspection date	23 February 2016
Previous inspection date	27 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Leaders and managers seek the views of children, parents and staff to evaluate and enhance practice. This results in staff planning for children's next steps through a variety of activities which reflect children's individual needs and interests.
- Children arrive happily and settle quickly into the nursery. They thrive in a stimulating environment and are familiar with their routines. Older children, confidently access resources and materials independently to initiate their own play and learning.
- The nursery works very effectively with parents and a wealth of information is exchanged to support a strong key person system that enables children to feel secure and confident to express their own needs, feelings and opinions.
- Staff help children to understand and respect one another's similarities and differences in culture and language. Children are developing a strong sense of their own identity and that of others particularly through songs and personal greetings in their home language.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not make best use of time and space to retain the interest of all children or ensure they have ample space to move freely and explore their own ideas. This reduces children's enjoyment of some activities.
- Records of minor incidents lack sufficient detail to explain clearly what happened. This limits the use of this information to further support improvements in practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all available space and time during group activities that engage children's interest so children can move freely and explore more fully their own ideas
- improve the detail of written records of incidents to clearly show what happened and the outcome so these can be used to evaluate practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted two joint observations with the manager who has overall responsibility for learning and development.
- The inspector spoke with children, staff and the deputy manager at suitable times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector looked at children's records, the nursery's self-evaluation document, evidence of suitability of staff, together with other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Sonia Lobo

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage effectively. Staff make sure their regular observations of children's learning are easily accessible to parents. This encourages parents to comment, contribute to and support their child's learning. Managers enable staff to take responsibility for their own professional development. Staff supervision meetings and appraisals have helped to identify individual training needs. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders keep a close check on children's attendance to monitor the reasons for any absences. They understand their responsibilities for safer recruitment and ensure any new staff are rigorously vetted and remain suitable to care for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with many opportunities to be confident communicators as they warmly greet children in English as well as their home language. Staff observe their key children as they engage in a range of activities to support their learning, this includes French lessons. This enables staff to capture details of all the languages children use in their play. Children enjoy a range of activities and join in singing favourite nursery rhymes in English, Japanese, French and Lithuanian. This helps children to learn about respecting one another's similarities and differences in language and culture. Staff do not always make the best use of time or space for some larger group activities. For example, children struggle to build towers in the space available and this goes unnoticed by staff. Staff plan fun and interactive sessions for older children to practise their letters and sounds. Children use their developing skills to blend sounds and make words, such as, car, pen and pig.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thrive in a stimulating environment. The physical and emotional well-being of each child is very well considered through daily routines. Children confidently express their own needs, feelings and opinions to staff and their friends. The nursery works very effectively with parents and information about the needs of each child is exchanged regularly. This supports a strong key person system and effective care practices that enable children to settle quickly because they feel safe and secure.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. Older children, confidently access resources and materials independently and initiate their own play and learning. Children develop their mathematical skills and show a keen interest in number games at circle time. Staff encourage children to count to find out how many boys and girls are in the group. Older children then work out how many children there are in total. Children develop a range of skills that helps them to be prepared well for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY256699
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	1040035
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	Huma Sayed
Date of previous inspection	27 November 2014
Telephone number	020 8492 8408

Southover Preschool is a privately owned nursery which re-registered in 2003. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. It opens each weekday from 8.30am to 2.30pm during term time. The nursery employs nine members of staff, of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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