

Inspection of Colourbox Childcare Nursery

385 Ivydale Road, London SE15 3ED

Inspection date: 31 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are safe and happy at this intimate, home-from-home setting. They settle quickly into the daily routine when they arrive in the morning. Babies and older children form close attachments with the kind and caring staff. This helps children to feel secure. Children are excited about choosing from a range of activities. For instance, young children draw using different crayons, pens and pencils. Staff have high expectations for all children. Children show respect towards their friends. During imaginative play in the role-play kitchen, older children respond with kindness and gentleness towards babies. Children's behaviour is good.

Children have lots of opportunities to access fresh air and thrive in the inspiring garden. For example, older children enjoy exploring what has been added to the imaginative 'fairy garden'. Babies and toddlers confidently move around using different types of bikes and trikes. Staff support children to have a sense of awe and wonder about the world around them. Children are inquisitive and active learners. They love watching bubbles of different sizes form in the air and then disappear. Children have a can-do attitude. For instance, toddlers patiently work together to complete puzzles. Babies enjoy reaching for brightly coloured sensory bottles.

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

- Children know the routines well. For instance, they wash their hands when they come in from outside at lunchtime. However, good hygiene practice is not consistent. For example, staff do not consider their hygiene routines when preparing fruit. They do not clean the tables before snack times. In addition, staff do not always wash their hands after wiping children's noses.
- The ambitious manager provides a broad and varied curriculum. Staff support children's learning and development through adult-led and child-initiated play. However, staff do not always extend opportunities for the most able children to develop their independence and raise their achievements even more.
- Staff know children well. The manager considers how to use any additional funding to promote children's well-being and learning. For example, staff attend training and create story sacks. This helps to develop children's concentration and builds on their communication and language skills.
- Children behave well. They listen and follow instructions during daily routines. For instance, children help to tidy up to get ready for circle time. They enjoy listening to stories and are eager to recall previous events. Children are proud of their artwork, and staff use this as a point of reference. This helps to build on their vocabulary.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents speak very highly about the staff. They feel well informed about their children's achievements. Information is

shared with parents on a daily basis, and parents often give feedback using the parent online application. Parents feel that their children are very happy at the setting.

- Staff support children's early mathematical skills successfully. For example, they display numbers and utensils in the garden for children to count when they use the mud kitchen. Young children listen to their favourite stories and join in with songs and rhymes. Older children count out how many more bricks they need to add to their pretend cakes. All children, including those who receive additional funding, make good progress from their starting points.
- Children develop their awareness of healthy living. They learn about the life cycle of plants and living things. They regularly bring things from home for the compost bin. Older children plant carrot seeds. Staff provide children with healthy snacks and meals.
- The manager has a clear vision for the setting and strives for continuous improvement. She works closely with staff and other professionals to reflect on their practice and evaluate the provision. For instance, they invite representatives from the local authority to attend the setting and provide feedback. Staff feel well supported and access training to further enhance their practice. This helps to drive improvements forward.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding and child protection issues. All staff complete safeguarding training and keep their training up to date. They are aware of the procedures to follow should there be any concerns regarding a child's welfare. Staff have a clear understanding of what to do if an allegation is made against them or a member of staff. Staff continually review the nursery environment to make sure it is always safe and secure. For instance, staff wipe down all the wet toys outdoors to ensure they are not slippery for children to use.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- further improve hygiene procedures to maximise children's well-being at all times
- review activities planned to ensure more-able children have the best possible opportunities to be more independent and ready for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2619276
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	10276077
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	13
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Colourbox Childcare Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2619275
Telephone number	02072779662
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Colourbox Childcare Nursery registered in January 2021. It is based in Peckham, in the London Borough of Southwark. The nursery is open all year round, from 8am to 6pm. The nursery has seven members of staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two members of staff hold early years professional status. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Colman

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to children and observed their activities throughout the inspection.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a learning activity.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff's qualifications, children's records and evidence of paediatric first-aid training.
- The inspector spoke to staff and observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- Parents gave their feedback, and the inspector took account of their views.

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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