

Inspection of Good Shepherd Day Nursery

Emmanuel C of E Church, Romford Road, LONDON E7 8BD

Inspection date:

6 June 2025

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Although staff have some understanding of the learning intentions for activities they provide for children, they do not implement experiences well enough to ensure children achieve highly in their learning. The quality of teaching is variable, and not all staff are confident in extending children's learning so that they make the best possible progress. That said, children are happy. They separate from their parents and carers with ease and are eager to join their friends. Staff are kind and nurturing, and they give lots of reassurance and praise to children, supporting their self-esteem. This helps children feel safe and secure.

Staff use books to support children's learning. This supports children to develop a love of books. For example, children enjoy manipulating play dough to make their own 'hungry caterpillars', and this helps to strengthen their dexterity for later pencil control. Staff interact alongside children as they use blocks to build, asking children about the different colours they use. Children enjoy building sandcastles in the garden as they work well together. Children behave well. Staff support children to develop healthy lifestyles as they enjoy lots of time in the garden and a choice of healthy snacks.

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

- Staff have a generally good understanding of where children are in their learning. However, the planning of activities is not sufficiently focused on the skills children need to make progress in their learning. For example, they use the book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' to focus on concepts that do not extend children's learning successfully.
- Children enjoy healthy snacks of fruit and water. Staff talk to them about healthy choices, oral hygiene and the importance of washing their hands to wash the germs away. Lots of opportunities are provided for children to be independent and develop their self-care skills. For example, they put their own shoes and coats on and off and hang coats on their pegs.
- Children enjoy singing action songs and listening to stories. Those children who speak English as an additional language are supported by staff who can speak in the children's home languages. That said, staff do not always implement effective strategies for building on early language skills. Children are not always given enough time to practise speaking using more complex sentences. Staff often ask questions that only require single word responses.
- Staff interact well with children, joining their play. However, staff do not give children time to explore activities fully and make choices in their play before being moved to another activity. This means children do not have the opportunity to revisit activities to embed their learning.
- Children have fun in the nursery. They spend time making marks in the sand tray

with different tools. They develop their mathematical awareness as they empty and fill containers using scoops. Staff use mathematical language, such as introducing different shapes throughout children's play.

- Staff promote children's physical skills well. Children enjoy time exploring the large and spacious garden. Staff join children as they use magnifying glasses as they look for minibeasts under wooden logs. Children develop their gross motor skills as they ride bikes and other wheeled toys and use stepping stones, counting them as they do.
- Parent partnerships are effective within the nursery. Leaders are committed to building strong relationships with the children and families who attend. They have various lines of communication to keep parents well informed of what happens in nursery. Parents comment that children are happy and are making progress in their development.
- Leaders support the new staff team and provide a thorough induction process. This helps staff to understand the expectations of the leaders role. Staff comment they feel very supported through regular meetings and opportunities for continual professional development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
strengthen knowledge of how to plan challenging experiences for children to support and extend their learning.	30/06/2025

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

- improve staff's implementation of strategies for communication and language to allow children to practise their emerging language skills
- provide consistent opportunities for children to make choices in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2704242
Local authority	Newham
Inspection number	10380246
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	Good Shepherd Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2704241
Telephone number	0203 002 4995
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Good Shepherd Day Nursery registered in 2022. It is situated in Forest Gate in the London Borough of Newham. The nursery offers care all year round, from 8am to 6pm. It is currently open Monday, Thursday and Friday. The nursery employs four staff including the manager, who holds a level 5 qualification. Other staff hold a level 2 and level 3 qualification. The nursery offers government funding for early years children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracey Murphy

Inspection activities

- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint observation was completed by the manager and inspector during planned activities.
- The inspector held a discussion with the manager and provider in relation to the leadership and management of the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of recruitment, staff's qualifications and their suitability to work with children.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and development with the staff team and nursery manager.

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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