

Inspection of Beechwood School Nursery

55 Leigham Court Road, London SW16 2NJ

Inspection date: 13 June 2024

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Management and staff do not have the knowledge and skills to be able to identify and act upon possible signs of concern. Staff do not have a robust understanding of safeguarding procedures. They lack training and do not show vigilance, for example in being sensitive to changes in behaviour and being responsive to what children say. As a result, children are not adequately safeguarded, including those who are vulnerable or with special educational and/or specific needs.

Key-person arrangements are ineffective. Staff do not know children well enough to ensure that their individual needs are met consistently. This means children do not develop secure attachments with their key person and their needs go unnoticed. For example, children cry and are not comforted, and staff do not ask after their well-being and show little concern.

The curriculum is ineffective and does not meet the needs of the children. Staff do not show understanding of the areas of learning. Staff do not show sufficient knowledge of how children learn, and activities do not always reflect age and stage. There are insufficient quality interactions with staff. Staff do not make the most of opportunities for learning and language development.

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

- Staff do not have the skills, knowledge and experience to support the well-being and emotional development of children at the nursery. Staff do not teach children how to regulate their emotions. Children settling into nursery are not supported adequately to deal with their feelings. This has significant impact on personal development.
- A poorly designed curriculum means children are not prepared for their next stage of learning. The intent of activities is unclear, and progress is not measured effectively. This means children do not benefit from learning experiences specific to their needs. Staff do not successfully implement activities and do not make the most of opportunities for learning and development.
- There is a lack of effective supervision arrangements for the manager and staff. This means staff do not receive support and undertake training to improve practice and ensure children's needs are met. Management is not proactive enough in demonstrating good practice and leading the way. It has not tackled areas of weakness, and the nursery has declined since the last inspection.
- Staff interactions with children are inconsistent. Staff do not introduce new vocabulary and do not always listen and clarify words for the children. This inhibits speech and language development. Children who speak English as an additional language are often silent, as staff do not attempt to speak with them. Children with speech and language difficulties do not receive the support they

need.

- Children have access to fresh air in an enclosed garden and enjoy playing in the space. They enjoy swishing water across their hands in a water tray. Some children scoop mud into a toy truck and make patterns in the dirt with the tyres. Children use their balance and coordination to walk across a wooden plank. This aids physical development.
- Staff do not adequately make use of risk assessments. For example, hazardous areas of the garden are not cordoned off and broken tiles remain on the floor. Staff are not deployed effectively; children run up and down stairs and disappear out of view into unsafe areas of the outside space. This means children's safety is compromised.
- Parents and carers report that they are satisfied with the nursery. They express confidence in having the manager as a point of contact. However, carers do not always know staff or key workers. They are unaware of their child's stage of development and do not receive support on how to achieve the next step.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure all staff have a clear understanding and knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures	02/08/2024
implement effective supervision arrangements for all staff so that they receive support and undertake appropriate training to improve practice and ensure children's needs are met	02/08/2024
implement an effective key-person system to ensure all needs of children are met	02/08/2024

ensure staff ratios are met and staff are deployed effectively to ensure the safety and well-being of children	02/08/2024
implement effective strategies to manage and support children's behaviour in a consistent and appropriate way	02/08/2024
support staff to ensure risk assessments are thorough and effective in identifying and addressing any potential hazards.	02/08/2024

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

	Due date
take action to identify and enable staff training needs. Implement a system to check understanding and application of knowledge to ensure all children receive good-quality learning and development experiences, tailored to their individual needs	02/08/2024
take action to implement a curriculum that suits the learning and development needs of all children.	02/08/2024

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY386062
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10342614
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	85
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Court Green Investments Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP911204
Telephone number	02086778778
Date of previous inspection	29 June 2023

Information about this early years setting

Beechwood School Nursery registered in 2008 and is located in the London Borough of Lambeth. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, including the manager. Of these, nine members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, ranging from level 2 to level 4. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7am to 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Zoe Duggan

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector observed the quality of the education being provided across the nursery, both indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation in the pre-school room.
- Parents, carers and staff spoke to the inspector and shared their views.
- The manager showed the inspector some nursery documents regarding the suitability of staff.

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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