

Cottage Day

St. Hildas Church, Courtrai Road, London, SE23 1PL



Inspection date	12 August 2016
Previous inspection date	14 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Staff have clear expectations of children's learning and plan successful activities that meet their individual needs. Children make good progress with their learning and development.
- The provider reflects on practice in the nursery. Staff successfully gather the views of parents and children. They use the information effectively to help them to shape the service provided. For example, they have reviewed and improved collection routines to ensure children's safety and to work more closely with parents.
- Children have a strong bond with the staff, which helps to strengthen children's emotional well-being. Staff effectively build on their close relationships with children and parents. They get to know children very well and meet their individual welfare needs successfully.
- The provider and staff have significantly improved safety in the nursery and complete effective risk assessments. They ensure children play in a safe and secure learning environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to encourage greater hand-to-eye coordination to develop children's physical skills further.
- Staff do not consistently support children to extend their independence and complete tasks for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop their hand-to-eye coordination further and build on their physical skills
- support children further to develop their independence and manage tasks for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in the play areas and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the provider, who is also the manager, and staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector reviewed and sampled documents, including those relating to safeguarding, recruitment and staff suitability, risk assessments and children's records.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding arrangements, safety and security, staff suitability and self-evaluation.

Inspector

Rebecca Hurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider and staff have a very clear understanding of safeguarding and the procedures to follow if they have any concerns regarding children's welfare. The provider implements effective recruitment and employment procedures. She carries out thorough checks to make sure staff are suitable for their role in working with children. The provider monitors staff practice effectively and uses the information successfully to support their professional development and keep up to date. For example, training on the key-worker system has significantly helped staff to understand their role in supporting children's learning and development more effectively. Children are thoroughly settled and achieving well. The provider works closely with the local authority to continuously improve practice. This helps to support positive outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out detailed assessments and observations of children's learning. They effectively use these to help track children's development and inform their planning. Staff regularly meet with parents to talk through children's learning and plan their progression together. This helps to provide good continuity of care with children's learning. Staff provide good-quality activities to challenge and extend children's understanding. For example, staff use questions cleverly to help children to explore their ideas. The provider successfully monitors children's development. This helps her to ensure that all children are progressing well and that any gaps in learning are promptly identified and closed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's safety and welfare effectively. They help children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, children practise fire drills so they are aware of what to do in an emergency. Children enjoy daily outside play and develop new skills. For example, they develop their physical skills and learn how to use balance bikes. Staff are consistent in their approach to behaviour management. For instance, children learn how to use words to describe their feelings. This helps them to manage their behaviour effectively and respect one another. Staff successfully teach children about healthy lifestyles. For example, staff remind children to drink plenty of water during hot weather.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a good range of skills to help them progress to the next stage of their learning and school. For example, children learn how to put their own shoes on and get ready to play in the garden. Children develop good language and communication skills. They speak confidently and think carefully about their activities. For example, children describe and look at the differences in the texture of wet and dry sand.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446805
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	1061055
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	1 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Cottage Day Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531616
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2013
Telephone number	02082917117

Cottage Day registered in 1996 and is in Forest Hill, within the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. It closes for one week at Christmas, and public holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are 16 members of staff; of whom, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes one member of staff with a qualification at level 5 and 10 at level 3.

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