

The Children's Garden

Grove Gardens Chapel, Lower Grove Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6HP



Inspection date

1 March 2018

Previous inspection date

13 May 2015

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

- Children thrive and have great fun as they learn in this nurturing kindergarten. They learn valuable life skills and gain independence through their daily routines. Children behave extremely well and show great respect for each other's ideas and opinions as they play. Staff establish clear expectations and routines for children, to which they respond well.
- Teaching is good. Staff use skilful ways to challenge children's thinking and encourage them to solve practical problems. Staff make good use of their observations of children's play to measure their progress accurately. Children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stages in their learning.
- Staff are successful in guiding all parents on how to support their children's learning at home. Staff use detailed information gained from parents about their children, to help them establish starting points and to plan the next steps in their learning. Staff ensure parents are well informed about all aspects of their children's learning.
- The manager provides good leadership that motivates staff to strive to provide good-quality care and learning for all children. She works alongside staff and models good practice to help them raise the quality of their practice further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although reflection on the provision is good overall, it does not identify more specific areas for further development to raise children's outcomes to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make greater use of self-evaluation to identify more specific areas for further enhancements in the provision and outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the kindergarten teacher.
- The inspector held a meeting with the deputy manager and the teacher of the kindergarten. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the kindergarten.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and considered their views.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff know how to report any concerns about a child's welfare. They implement rigorous policies and procedures, and maintain meticulous records that strengthen ways in which they protect children and staff. Staff supervise children vigilantly to help keep them safe. The manager supports staff well to maintain their continuous professional development to improve children's learning experiences. The manager and staff work well together to monitor all children's progress. They work successfully with other early years professionals to help them monitor the quality of the provision overall.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff develop children's thinking and problem solving well during activities. For example, when they make bread, children think about what they need to do next and which utensils they can use that are best suited to each task. They know that they need to use more flour to stop the dough getting too sticky as they shape it into balls. Staff guide and support their play effectively to help them make the most of their learning experiences. Staff group children together at certain times of day. They encourage them to join in with action songs and rhymes, and ensure more-reluctant children are included and given confidence. Staff help children to work together to prepare the table for lunch and to remember what needs to go on the table. Children work out how many chairs and place settings they need for the number of children and adults present.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff praise children and they gain confidence to try new ways to achieve their goals and to persevere with their chosen activities. Staff help older children to understand that they may take as long as they wish to plan creative projects and develop these over time. Children experiment with different ideas and take pride in their creations, such as when they assemble Easter baskets and decorate them with tissue paper flowers and other items they make. Children have many exciting outdoor learning opportunities that promote their physical development and their discovery about the natural world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn valuable skills for the future. They make independent choices in their play and in the resources they use. Children engage in successful teamwork to plan and discuss what they want to achieve and how they will do this. They are very imaginative in their play. For example, they build structures from large wooden frames and blocks to create cars or boats, and discuss where the luggage will go. They make use of fabric to enhance their designs and involve all children who wish to join in. Younger children watch and learn from the older ones before deciding how they will contribute to the activity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY380063
Local authority	Richmond upon Thames
Inspection number	1093558
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 6
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	The Children's Garden
Registered person unique reference number	RP521235
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2015
Telephone number	02089482959

The Children's Garden registered in 2008. The provider employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, level 4 or level 5. The kindergarten opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.30am until 1.30pm. The kindergarten receives funding to provide free early education for three- and four-year-old children and follows the Steiner Waldorf philosophy of education.

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