

# Hendon Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** EY286575  
**Inspection date** 07/02/2011  
**Inspector** Caren Carpenter

**Setting address** 46 Allington Road, Hendon, London, NW4 3DE

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**Type of setting** Childcare on non-domestic premises

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## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

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## Description of the setting

Asquith, Hendon is part of the Asquith Group. It was registered in 1999 and operates from a converted semi detached premises in the Hendon area within the London borough of Barnet. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

A maximum of 73 children in the early years age group may attend the nursery at any one time. There are currently 94 children in the early years age group on roll. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm for 51 weeks of the year.

The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register.

The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 16 members of staff including the manager to work with children. Of these 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery employs a cook.

The nursery receives support from an advisory teacher from the Early Years Childcare Partnership.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

Children absolutely enjoy their time at this vibrant and inclusive nursery. Their safety and welfare is given the utmost priority by the dedicated staff team and provision for their learning and development is excellent. The manager and staff provide exceptionally clear direction, underpinned by strong management systems. Excellent partnerships with between parents and other agencies ensure that children's needs are met. Outstanding reflected practice clearly identifies areas for continued progression, which results in well-targeted and sustained improvement.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- ensure that the mobile radiator does not pose a risk to children in the nursery room
- further develop outdoor play equipment to enhance children's play and

learning experiences.

## **The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision**

Staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding. They are well trained on safeguarding issues as well as excellent policies and procedures are fully implemented to safeguard children from harm and neglect. Meticulous induction and support systems ensure new staff know the procedures to safeguard and protect children.

The nursery is kept very secure and there are appropriate arrival and departure routines for parents to follow when collecting children. Staff are vigilant in supervising children to ensure they remain safe. Written risk assessments are comprehensive across the provision.

All staff contribute to an ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of the nursery and this is further aided with the valued suggestions and support from parents and outside agencies, identifying areas for improvements and implementing the necessary changes. This open self-reflecting approach ensures children are happy and thrive in a stimulating well planned environment. Excellent improvements have been made since the last inspection. For example, the nursery manager has developed effective planning systems to ensure that all children enjoy an excellent balanced of both adult-led and child initiated activities based on children's interest and their capabilities. As a result, children are making extremely good progress across the six areas of learning. The manager is, however, very keen to increase and extend the outdoor play equipment to further enhance children's play and learning experiences.

There is an excellent and supportive management structure in place, this results in effective team work. The staff work most efficiently together and with their key person groups which ensures a consistent and flexible approach for children and their parents. In addition, staffing arrangements ensure children have continuity with a key person monitoring their progress as well as benefiting from a high ratio of staff to children. Regular team meetings and non contact time ensure that staff are kept extremely well informed of relevant issues and procedures and are able to maintain each child's achievements records to a high standard.

The premises is very well organised in order to meet the needs of all the children and to ensure it is safe, secure and welcoming. All policies and procedures are clearly written and are an effective aid to staff in their daily practice to support children's welfare. Quality resources are deployed to enable children to make outstanding progress in their learning and development.

Staff work exceptionally well with wide range of professional agencies, such as speech and language therapist and the Area Special Educational Needs team to develop and monitor individual educational plans to ensure that children with learning difficulties and or disabilities benefit from a very positive and rewarding experience. Children's understanding of diversity and difference is enhanced as

they celebrate festivals and special events from around the world. They access excellent resources that reflect positive images of people from different cultures. This ensures that children learn to value aspects of their lives and the diverse society in which they live.

Partnerships with parents are excellent and they are welcomed into the nursery everyday. Staff are available on daily basis to discuss what the children have been doing. There are very effective induction arrangements in place and staff organise weekly 'Stay and Play' sessions in order to involve parents more in the nursery. Parents are closely consulted on their children's development and are invited to regular evening meetings to meet with staff to discuss their children's achievements and to contribute to planning the next steps in their children's learning. Parents have excellent opportunities to become involved in social events and contribute to their children's learning. For example, they attend and contribute to social events such as Hanukah and Christmas celebrations. The nursery values parents and carers comments and seeks their views on what they are doing well and what they could do better and use this as an effective way of developing and maintaining excellent communication between staff and parents.

Parents speak highly of the commitment of staff to settling children in and of the high quality feed back they receive about the activities enjoyed by their children. They say the nursery is fabulous; staff are approachable and show commitment care and consistency in their work. The manger has established links with two local nursery schools to ensure continued progression of children's care, learning and development. In addition, the local early years team uses the nursery as an outstanding practice for other providers for the early years foundation stage.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children**

Children thoroughly enjoy attending this terrific nursery. The learning environment is arranged to promote children's choices and decisions about their play and to enable them to adapt activities to enhance their own learning. For example, they are able to move items from other activities to enhance their play in the sand and water play activities.

The highly skilled and enthusiastic staff know the children very well and are able to anticipate their needs. Individual children's needs are effectively met because the key person spends time recording written observations along with photographs of the children's interests and achievements. These observations are used most effectively to indentify children's starting points and to plan future learning opportunities. Plans are clearly written, detailed and regularly reviewed to ensure an excellent balanced of adult-led and child-initiated activities.

Babies play with a quality range of toys and experiences that promotes the development of their senses. For example, they have a wonderful exploring the texture of corn flour and show their delight shaking and listening to different sounds as they explore various objects. Staff spend quality time playing and

responding effectively to babies' individual needs. Sleeping and changing routines for the babies are thorough, and carefully recorded. Staff ensure that the daily routine is planned according to their individual needs and at their own pace. As a result, babies are very happy and feel secure.

Children benefit tremendously from the organisation of the sessions that include plenty of time for free exploration and time to work in small groups with a key person. These times are used to focus on discussions or specific activities led by the children. Children's efforts and achievements are highly valued and proudly displayed around the nursery, promoting their developing confidence and motivation to continue with their interest.

Children benefit from having the use of the fantastic well designed outside play area where they participate in an exciting range of interesting and stimulating activities. For example, children have excellent opportunities to learn about how plants grow and take great pleasure in planting and watering their carrots, apples and tomatoes plants. In addition, children enjoy preparing and eating their home grown produce.

Children's creative development is given very good attention as they express their own ideas, use a variety of art equipment and take part in role-play which is highly imaginative and rich in learning opportunities. For example, they a fantastic time as they pretend to be at a Chinese restaurant as they prepare, cook and serve their noodles to each other.

Children are making excellent progress in their communication, language and literacy development. They absolutely enjoy participating and contributing in story sessions and have excellent access to a wide range of quality books which they choose independently for pleasure in the cosy book areas. Children are successfully developing their early writing skills, they have excellent opportunities to write for different purposes and have extremely good access to a range of writing resources which they select independently.

Children have excellent opportunities to use new technology to support their learning as they use find out how things work. For example, they thoroughly enjoy using a range of interesting and stimulating equipment to further promote their learning, such as a large interactive white board and a touch screen computer. This successfully helps children to develop skills that contribute to their future economic well-being.

Children are exceptionally well supported to develop a healthy life style through the provision of healthy and nutritious snacks and freshly cooked meals that support their individual dietary needs superbly well. Children enjoy their meals which is freshly prepared on the premises by the friendly cook who is known by the children and is part of the team. Parents have been extremely well consulted regarding the meals at the nursery and as a result the nursery successfully provides a range of kosher meals to meet the needs of the children attending.

Children take part in an excellent range of activities that enhance their physical development, for example they have an amazing time in the superb garden as they

confidently use a range of outdoor play equipment where they practise their large physical skills.

Children have excellent awareness of their own safety as they move around the nursery with care, manage the transition between indoors and outdoor with ease and take part in regular fire drills. Older children have an extremely good awareness of routines for personal hygiene as they wash their hands appropriately and attend to their own toileting needs.

Staff have a loving and caring relationship with children, who form strong attachments to adults and other children within the nursery. All staff clearly apply consistent boundaries, so that children develop knowledge of what is expected and display positive behaviour. Children are very well behaved as they take turns and contribute to the welfare of others as they help to tidy away at the end of an activity. Staff know individual children very well and provide them with an excellent level of sensitive and appropriate support.



## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*  
*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*  
*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*  
*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	1

### The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

### The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	1
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	1

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