

1a Children's Centre

1a Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1R 4SR



Inspection date

27 January 2015

Previous inspection date

8 October 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff have good teaching skills and a secure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They plan a varied range of activities based on children's interests and individual needs. As a result, children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff are warm and affectionate with their key children. The close relationships formed help children to feel safe and cared for, enabling them to become confident learners.
- Older children are encouraged to be independent and to manage their own personal needs relative to their age. All children are developing high levels of confidence, and good communication and social skills.
- Staff create positive partnerships with parents and involve them well in their child's learning and development.
- Children are well supported to settle when they start, and as they move up through the nursery and prepare to go to other settings, including school.
- Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to safeguard children.
- Partnerships with other professionals, external agencies and local schools are well established, helping to secure appropriate interventions for children when necessary.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide many opportunities for children learning English as an additional language to use their home language within the nursery.
- Staff in the baby room do not consistently promote children's understanding of how to keep themselves healthy.

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 learning English as an additional language to use their home language within the nursery
- strengthen arrangements to teach the youngest children about good personal hygiene routines by improving hand washing arrangements for babies and disposing of used tissues promptly.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has had on children's learning inside and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the head of centre.
- The inspector held a meeting with the head of centre and the deputy head of centre, and spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at documentation, such as policies and evidence of the suitability of staff to work in the nursery.

Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff promote children's learning and development well across all areas. They gather information from parents when children start in the nursery, which means that they have a good understanding of the needs of each child in their care. Staff use ongoing assessment effectively to plan suitably challenging activities around children's interests. Staff provide a wide range of resources and experiences so that children are motivated to play and learn. They promote children's communication and language well but provide only limited opportunities for children to practice their home languages in the nursery. This does not help to fully support children who are learning English as an additional language to reinforce their learning at home. Other than this, teaching is good and, as a result, children are inquisitive, enthusiastic learners. They confidently explore, get involved and share their ideas with staff and other children.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff are warm, caring and form positive relationships with children. They give clear guidance on expected behaviour, providing secure boundaries. Children have regular opportunities for active play in the outside space at the nursery and during outings. They enjoy nutritious food and develop independence as they serve themselves during snack and meal times. Older children get their own coats when going outside to play. These skills help them to be ready for school. Staff teach children why they must have clean hands and keep their noses clean. However, in the baby room, children all wash their hands in the same water and tissues are not always thrown away immediately. This means children are not fully supported to develop good personal hygiene practices from the earliest age.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The management team has a good understanding of how children develop and learn. There are accurate monitoring systems to ensure that children who need additional support are quickly identified. In these cases, action plans are drawn up and implemented to narrow any gaps in achievement. Effective partnerships with other professionals and external agencies, such as speech therapists, mean that all children receive the care and support they require to meet their individual needs. Staff demonstrate a good knowledge of safeguarding procedures and know what action to take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Robust recruitment procedures ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff continue to develop their skills and knowledge by attending training courses. This has resulted in the introduction of new initiatives, such as the development of a mud kitchen and forest school activities, to enhance children's learning. Parents report that staff are friendly and approachable, and that their children are happy, settled and making good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY351434
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	837903
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	41
Name of provider	London Borough of Camden
Date of previous inspection	8 October 2009
Telephone number	0207 974 7038

The 1a Children's Centre was registered in 2007. It is based in the London Borough of Camden, close to local amenities. The nursery is open each week day from 8am until 6pm, for 48 weeks of the year. The nursery operates from the first and third floor with a lift available. There are two outdoor play areas situated on these floors. There are 17 members of staff, 15 of whom hold early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four.

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