

# Blythwood Community Nursery

Blythwood Community Nursery, Holly Hall, Blythwood Road, LONDON, N4 4EU



## Inspection date

17 March 2015

Previous inspection date

13 June 2011

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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff maintain a calm working atmosphere in which children explore happily. They interact effectively with children, enhancing their play. As a result, children have good opportunities to learn new skills.
- A key strength is the focus group provision for older children. Staff use this group time to extend children's learning in language and literacy, thereby helping to prepare them well for further learning at school.
- Staff actively promote an awareness of healthy lifestyles. They make good use of a healthy eating project to encourage children to eat more diverse and healthy foods. Children enjoy good opportunities for outdoor play.
- The management team is particularly effective in tracking children's progress and devising action plans to better support children. In this way, they are able to close any gaps in children's learning and development.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always offer a wide range of opportunities for children to learn more about the natural world and natural materials.

## **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 learn about the natural world and to use natural materials.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed children taking part in a range of indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector talked with staff and observed their teaching.
- The inspector talked with the manager and the deputy manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, in particular that relating to children's progress and safeguarding.
- The manager was offered an opportunity to take part in a joint observation but declined.

## **Inspector**

Jill Nugent

## Inspection findings

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

Staff make the most of opportunities during play to promote learning. They play and talk with children, helping them to use spoken language in different ways. Staff are particularly adept at using books and stories to engage children's interest. They encourage children's awareness of writing for a purpose by recording children's comments and stories in writing. Staff support children well in the development of mathematical skills. They challenge children to think and to work things out; for example, when playing dominoes, children learn to do simple calculations. Outdoors, children especially benefit from opportunities to develop their physical skills using the large equipment. Staff teach children about the natural environment. Children grow plants and observe the life cycle of caterpillars. However, staff do not extend this learning in other ways, for example by introducing natural materials for children to talk about and use creatively.

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

Staff are sensitive to children's care needs and offer individual attention to help children become more independent. They encourage younger children to gain confidence in the small play room before moving up to the busier large play room. As a result, children feel secure and show a positive attitude to new learning experiences. Staff encourage children to respect others and to play harmoniously together. Consequently, children take turns and share well. They are keen to make friends and develop close relationships. Children are attentive to staff and behave responsibly. They especially enjoy circle times, with songs and action rhymes. At focus group times, older children show much enthusiasm for learning new skills. For example, they use letters, sounds and rhymes in organised games.

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

The manager is fully aware of her responsibilities regarding the implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage and is actively involved in the educational programme. She works closely with staff to ensure that all areas of learning are taught effectively. She is proactive in encouraging staff to take opportunities for further professional development. In this way, staff continually improve outcomes for children, for example with regard to developing children's communication and language skills. The nursery has established links with a local children's centre. This enables staff to work in partnership with other professionals, when necessary, to meet children's individual developmental needs. The manager is vigilant in regard to safeguarding issues and ensures children are always well supervised. Staff liaise closely with parents and provide regular opportunities to exchange information about children's progress.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY421032
<b>Local authority</b>	Islington
<b>Inspection number</b>	832689
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	28
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	32
<b>Name of provider</b>	Blythwood Community Nursery Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 June 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	02072 635 070

Blythwood Community Nursery registered in 2011. It operates from a community centre in Crouch Hill in the London Borough of Islington. The nursery is open from 8am until 6pm every weekday for 48 weeks a year. There is a team of eight staff, all of whom are suitably qualified. The manager has Early Years Professional Status. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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