

Leaping Lizards Day Nursery Ltd



Whittington Park Community Centre, 86 Yerbury Road, London, N19 4RS

Inspection date 30 March 2015
Previous inspection date 28 June 2012

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 develop caring relationships with the children that effectively support children's well-being and help them settle into their surroundings successfully.
- Staff effectively extend children's mathematical skills through planned and spontaneous activities, which helps children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not always ensure that staff update assessments regularly to fully reflect the children's age and individual stage of development.
- The manager does not ensure staff have appropriate knowledge and understanding of how to consistently link letters to sounds to fully promote children's literacy skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build the staff's skills in using assessments effectively to fully reflect all aspects of children's learning
- support staff to develop their knowledge in letters and sounds so they can promote children's literacy more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the two rooms where babies and children were playing.
- The inspector talked to some of the parents.
- The inspector examined a selection of documents, including policies and procedures, and documents to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector looked at a variety of children's records, including observations, assessments and planning.
- The inspector talked to the manager and the staff, and carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Alexandra Samara

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good knowledge of their key children and how to support their learning by planning appropriate next steps for their development. Staff observe the interests of the children to inform their planning. As a result, staff provide stimulating resources that attract children's engagement, for example playing with the fire engine. Staff are good at extending children's mathematical skills by supporting them to count, link quantities to numbers and describe shapes. They effectively develop children's understanding of books by asking them questions about the story they read together. Teaching is good overall and staff sustain children's interest for long periods of time. Staff inform parents regularly about their child's learning and how they can support their independence skills at home. Consequently, children make good progress in their development and are well prepared for the next stages in their learning and school.

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

Staff communicate with parents regularly to support their children's move to nursery, with good settling-in procedures, which help children to develop close relationships. Parents comment positively on the support offered to their children during this period. Staff encourage waiting and turn taking to promote children's social skills. As a result, children learn to work together in a group. Staff help children to develop friendships and support less confident children with praise and by offering them choices. Consequently, children's confidence is developed. Staff organise lunchtime effectively so that it becomes a social experience and children learn about sharing, serving themselves, quantities and ingredients. Staff remind children to wash their hands before lunch and snack times, so that they develop and follow good hygiene practices.

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

The manager is a reflective practitioner and has a good understanding of the provision's strengths and areas for development. She has identified clear areas for improvement and has consulted parents, children and staff about changes she is implementing. As a result, the setting is consistently improving. The manager supports staff to improve their practice through mentoring and some training. This enables staff to feel well supported and have clarity of their roles and responsibilities. All staff have received training in safeguarding and have a good knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures and what action they need to follow if they have concerns about a child. This helps to safeguard children and protect them effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY365093
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	828935
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Leaping Lizards Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	28 June 2012
Telephone number	020 76193624

Leaping Lizards Day Nursery Ltd registered in 2007. The nursery operates from two rooms in the Whittington Park Community Centre in Islington, North London. The nursery is open from 8am until 6pm each weekday for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A total of 15 staff work with the children. The majority of staff hold recognised early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3.

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