

Gwendolen House Nursery School



37 & 39, Gwendolen Avenue, Putney, London, SW15 6EP

Inspection date	24 April 2015
Previous inspection date	24 August 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The leadership and management team puts children's interests at the heart of the nursery ethos. They cater for all children's needs and inspire learning.
- The management and staff work in close partnership with parents. They are dedicated to involving parents fully in nursery life. The highly effective engagement means that they reflect on children's learning together to ensure they make outstanding progress.
- The nursery has a highly qualified workforce. Staff use their expert skills to make precise assessments and monitor children's development accurately. They skilfully provide children with stimulating challenges to ensure learning is progressive.
- The quality of teaching is motivational and children make exceptional progress in literacy. Staff teach children early reading skills. Children are encouraged to develop a passion for books. They choose books to read and engage in other literacy activities, such as learning the names and sounds of letters and writing their own stories.
- The children develop an understanding about how animals grow and change over time as they study their life cycles. They closely observe the nursery goats, chickens and rabbits. They take great pride in caring for and looking after them.
- Children learn about mathematics within the extremely well organised daily routines. For example, the older children follow a visual timetable that helps them learn about event sequencing and introduces them to understanding and telling the time.
- The chef provides healthy, nutritious home-cooked meals daily, which contribute to children's healthy lifestyles. Staff plan an excellent balance of physical activity and times for children to relax and rest. They benefit from specialist sessions, such as football, to practise and develop their physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's exploratory and investigative skills by increasing natural resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interaction with the children during activities.
- The inspector held discussions with staff at relevant times.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents and considered their views.

Inspector

Sheryll Edwards

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a thorough understanding of how children learn and the quality of teaching is exceptionally high. Staff use their expert knowledge to deliver inspirational educational programmes, which ensure children make outstanding progress in their learning. Children are continuously learning throughout the day because play and daily routines embed exciting learning opportunities. Staff make accurate assessments of children's abilities and use these to plan stimulating and challenging activities. Staff prepare the older children with excellent support ready for their move to school. For example, the pre-school classes replicate a reception class and handovers in the mornings are shorter to mirror those of school. Children are extremely confident, keen learners and develop skills ready for school.

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

The staff prepare a rich learning environment with high-quality resources. Children are extremely confident to make choices from the abundance of exciting opportunities. They have a strong sense of belonging because they have very secure attachments with their key person and close relationships with other staff. Parents say how 'homely' and 'nurturing' the nursery is and how their key persons spend ample time to help settle their babies. Staff meticulously follow babies' individual care routines to help them feel safe and secure. As children grow older, staff skilfully encourage their independence. For example, staff inspire children to take ownership of their learning and to look after the environment. Each class has their own set of golden rules that differ from room to room. Children confidently remind each other of these and staff sensitively reinforce them. As a result, children have exceptionally high levels of self-control and behave remarkably well.

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

The leadership and management team expertly monitors the effectiveness and quality of the provision. They rigorously monitor staff performance and strive to enhance their practice. Managers and senior staff meet weekly to review children's progress to ensure they all make continuous progress and any gaps in their learning are closing. They provide exceptional support for those children requiring additional help, such as working with other professionals, one-to-one time with their key person or working in small groups. One parent commended the staff, 'for their patience, dedication and commitment to help their child meet milestones speedily'. Leaders and managers have comprehensive safeguarding procedures, which staff implement effectively to ensure they help to protect children's welfare. Leaders and managers have robust recruitment procedures and new staff receive a thorough induction. They hold highly effective supervision meetings that help identify and build on staff's strengths. Leaders and managers are extremely supportive of staff gaining higher qualifications. Their expert knowledge and exceptional teaching mean that all children make outstanding progress in their learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY272177
Local authority	Wandsworth
Inspection number	833385
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	101
Number of children on roll	141
Name of provider	Gwendolen House Nursery School Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 August 2011
Telephone number	0208 7041107

Gwendolen House Nursery School registered in 2004. It is run by a private limited company. The nursery is situated in Putney, in the London Borough of Wandsworth. It opens between 7.30am and 7pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged three and four. There are 55 staff; of these, two have Early Years Professional Status, five have Qualified Teacher Status, five hold a qualification at level 6 and 40 staff hold a qualification at level 3.

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