

Masons Nursery School

24th Croydon Scout Group Premises, 48-50 Verdayne Avenue, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 8TS



Inspection date

1 June 2015

Previous inspection date

23 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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children enjoy good relationships with staff. The key-person system helps staff to provide consistently good care for all children.
- Staff teach children about good hygiene practices. Children enjoy healthy snacks and have plenty of opportunities to develop their physical skills and enjoy playing outside.
- Staff have a clear understanding of how children learn and provide a range of stimulating activities that help them make good progress.
- Staff have strong relationships with parents and they work together to support children's learning. As a result, parents are involved in their children's development.
- Staff continually assess children's learning and plan further opportunities for them to make the best possible progress.
- The managers carry out regular staff supervision to monitor practice and identify training needs. This helps to continually raise the quality of teaching. For example, staff have attended various training to help them support children, including the use of sign language. This has led to an improvement in children's communication skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully involve children in future improvements to their learning by asking for their views or ideas.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's thinking skills by asking questions that need more than a simple answer.

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 thinking skills by asking more open questions
- involve children further in their learning by asking for their views on what they would like to have in the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the nursery, inside and in the garden.
- The inspector observed the children and noted the views of the parents.
- The inspector read through a selection of documents, including policies and safety procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the managers, staff and children.
- The inspector observed some activities and carried out a joint observation with one of the managers.

Inspector

Karen Callaghan

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a broad range of activities to promote children's learning and development. They organise the wide range of toys and resources so that children can reach them easily to make independent choices. Staff provide stimulating activities which children enjoy. For example, children plant seeds, watch them grow and then learn to prepare the crop for eating healthily. Staff help older children learn how to write their names and start to recognise the sounds of letters. This helps them to develop skills ready for starting school. Staff inspire children to take part in stories and join in with learning rhymes and songs. Children use their imaginative skills to dress up and act out different characters. They enjoy riding around on bikes, and climbing and balancing in the garden. They enjoy learning useful ball skills which strengthen their physical development.

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

The environment is attractive and welcoming for all ages with a wide variety of clearly-labelled resources for the children to pursue their own interests. Staff value children's artwork and display it attractively. Staff give plenty of praise and build children's self-esteem and confidence. They teach them good self-care by showing them how to cut up fruit safely, pour their own drinks and wash their hands properly. Children learn to respect each other and behave appropriately because the staff are good role models. Staff take children on trips out to the local community to widen their experience of the real world. They make good use of available services to help them support and plan for children's particular needs. They support all children to extend their language skills, using sign language and picture cues to help them communicate.

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

Managers have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and have a range of clear procedures and policies to support children's health, safety and well-being. They make rigorous checks on the quality of teaching, planning and assessment which results in individual children's needs being fully met. Questionnaires show that parents value the nursery and praise it highly. Staff encourage parents to review their children's learning journals and add their views and observations. This allows parents to play an active role in their children's learning. The manager has robust systems to check that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff attend regular training which ensures that they understand child protection procedures and act appropriately to safeguard children. Managers have effective contact with local schools which helps children to make successful moves on to their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125001
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	840510
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	56
Name of provider	Charlotte Figueira
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2011
Telephone number	07718067514

Masons Nursery School registered in September 2001. It operates from a self-contained hall with a secure garden area. The nursery school is located in Shirley, within the London Borough of Croydon. The nursery school is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery provides care for 30 children aged two to four years old. The nursery school is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged three and four years old. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm with the option of staying for lunch. The nursery school supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The nursery school is open term-time only and closes for staff training days. There are seven staff working with the children, six of whom have a Level 3 qualification in childcare and one has a degree in education.

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