

Mace Montessori Schools Limited



Mace Montessori School, 38-42 Millman Street, London, WC1N 3EW

Inspection date 12 June 2015
Previous inspection date 9 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implement good procedures to help safeguard children, and promote their welfare effectively.
- Staff use effective systems to monitor children's development, including reviewing children's progress at specific ages. This supports the next steps in their learning.
- Children have access to a good balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities. They present high levels of skill in making choices and being independent.
- The setting has a positive approach to inclusion, supporting children of different abilities, individual needs and ages to fulfil their learning expectations.
- Children's well-being is supported effectively with daily outdoor activities, the provision of a healthy diet, and the positive steps taken to minimise potential risks .
- Management has a positive outlook to improving outcomes for children. It welcomes the support of the local authority and takes appropriate steps to raise standards following inspection.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of large group times do not take into account the differing needs of individuals. As a result, younger children or those who are settling-in, or have specific needs, are not always fully engaged.
- Staff do not always help children to make links between signs and words to fully extend children's communication skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the grouping of children for large circle-time activities, to reflect the individual needs and ages of the children attending, and ensure that even the youngest children are fully engaged
- help children to make links between signs used by staff and the word to which it relates to enhance children's communication skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, viewed planning of activities and spoke to staff to identify what activities and experiences are offered.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents, and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to staff in regards to the systems used for monitoring children's development, looked at required documentation, and children's progress records.
- The inspector and the registered individual carried out a joint observation of an adult-led focused activity.
- The inspector spoke to the registered individual about how the setting has moved forward since the last inspection, and how ongoing progress is identified and addressed.

Inspector

Shaheen Belai

Inspection findings

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

Staff use planning, observation and assessment successfully to support children's progress and development. Children enjoy taking part in a variety of positive learning experiences based on their individual needs and interests. Communication through the spoken word and signing is encouraged and the teaching of mathematics is strong. Children use various resources to develop their understanding of the value of numbers, early addition and subtraction. Children learn about the wider world, such as the solar system and their own heritage. They take time to create artwork, using a range of tools and resources to express their ideas. Children follow instructions well and become active contributors to the group by helping to clean the tables or sweep up... Children have fun playing outside. The community is used regularly to support their learning. For example, children often visit the farm.

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

Children's good health and well-being are fostered successfully. Children quickly feel safe and secure because settling-in arrangements are good and parents are made welcome. Inclusion is strongly embedded in the school's values and beliefs. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported effectively. Good links with other professionals help them achieve well. Play areas are arranged to make resources accessible to children, to develop their independence skills and confidence. Staff promote good behaviour and children learn to share and take turns. Children learn to keep themselves safe. The organisation of staff ensures constant supervision. A healthy lifestyle is encouraged, as children are active and eat healthy food.

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

Leadership and management have changed since the last inspection and effective action has been taken to meet previous actions. This includes improving the assessment of children's development and sharing information with parents. Close partnerships with the local authority has contributed to improvement. The staff understand the requirement to follow the safeguarding procedures in the event of a concern about a child. Good systems are now implemented to check and review the quality of the provision. Parents spoken to on inspection were positive about the progress achieved by children, partnerships with parents, and supporting children's individual needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY303942
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	984855
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Mace Montessori Schools Limited
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2014
Telephone number	020 7242 5842

Mace Montessori Nursery registered in 2005, and is one of 10 nurseries run by Mace Montessori Schools Limited. The setting is situated in Clerkenwell, within the London Borough of Camden. The setting operates weekdays from 8am to 6pm, 51 weeks a year. The setting receives funding for three and four- year- old children. The setting supports children who speak English as an additional language and who have special education needs and/or disabilities. In total, eight staff work at the setting, six of whom hold relevant qualifications ranging from level 3 to 8.

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