

Packington Children's Centre



New North Community School, 32 Popham Road, LONDON, N1 8SJ

Inspection date 20 August 2015
Previous inspection date 19 July 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 highly qualified staff team provide children with a range of exciting and interesting activities, which enhance their learning and enable them to make excellent progress relevant to their starting points on entry. Children are extremely motivated and fully engaged in their play and learning, as staff respect their choices and plan activities accordingly.
- Children are happy and settled, and play together co-operatively. This is because staff are excellent role models and establish clear boundaries and expectations around acceptable behaviour.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary and make a significant contribution to meeting children's individual needs. Parents speak very highly of staff, who keep them fully informed about their children's care and progress and how they can support their children's learning at home. Parents take part in activities with their children and share information about their child's interests.
- The leadership team is highly reflective and fully committed to driving improvement. They implement very effective measures to evaluate the strengths and any areas for development. They involve parents in this process and take their views into account.
- Staff give the highest priority to keeping children safe. Policies and procedures are implemented consistently to promote children's safety and welfare exceptionally well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to extend their concentration skills further through the completion of activities to increase their already high levels of independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and in the outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the Head of Centre.
- The inspector held meetings with the Head of Centre and other staff.
- The inspector looked at documentation, such as children's assessment records, planning documentation, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is outstanding. Staff gather detailed information from parents when their children start and use their observations to accurately assess and plan effectively for each child. Staff monitor children closely so that they can promptly seek additional support if required. As a result, all children make exceptional progress. Arrangements for supporting children with additional needs are very effective. Staff work closely with relevant professionals as needed and use signs and symbols to promote shared communication. Staff support children who speak languages other than English well. They ask parents to share familiar words to promote their child's language development. The learning environments are extremely well resourced, enabling children to make independent choices. Staff provide interesting adult-led activities, for example a puppet show about starting at a new nursery. This helps children to explore their feelings about upcoming changes in their lives. Staff work in partnership with other staff at the nurseries children will move on to and take children to visit their new setting. This helps to prepare them emotionally for the move.

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

Warm and friendly staff get to know children and their families exceptionally well, meeting children's individual emotional needs very well. Children develop high levels of self-esteem through staff's praise and encouragement and their views are respected and valued by staff. This contributes towards children forming extremely secure attachments. Staff teach children to make healthy food choices and provide opportunities for daily fresh air and exercise. Children pour their drinks, serve their food and help to clear away dirty plates. This promotes their independence skills well in readiness for school.

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

The Head of Centre and senior staff are passionate about the work they do. They show an excellent understanding of how children learn, which enables all children to thrive. Staff are suitable in their roles and responsibilities because rigorous recruitment procedures are implemented. Staff benefit from regular supervision meetings and evaluation of their teaching. There are extensive opportunities for professional development and staff are encouraged to gain higher qualifications. This contributes significantly to their outstanding practice. Staff successfully share their learning with their peers. For example, training in running small language groups has had a significant impact on the progress of children's speech and language development. However, on occasions, staff call children away from what they are doing without warning to join group activities. This interrupts children's concentration and the flow of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY442174
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	984975
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	29
Name of provider	The London Borough of Islington
Date of previous inspection	19 July 2012
Telephone number	02077043903

Packington Children's Centre originally registered in 2008. It was re-registered in 2012 due to a change in management. It is managed by the London Borough of Islington where it is based. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm for 48 weeks a year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two and three. There are 14 staff, who all hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes four staff with Early Years Professional Status and one with Qualified Teacher Status.

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