

Inspection date	20 October 2015
Previous inspection date	3 May 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not always ensure that written permission is received from parents before medication is given. This does not fully support children's well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are not good enough. Parents are not always able to find out about their children's progress. Opportunities for them to contribute to their children's learning to promote continuity between home and the nursery are limited.
- Staff do not consistently observe and assess children's learning, which does not provide a clear understanding of the progress children make. This hinders the children's progress and their readiness for the next stage in their learning.
- Staff do not always check that the organisation of some group activities is matched precisely to the needs of all children participating so they gain the most from the activity.
- Self-evaluation is not effective in identifying the weaknesses in the legal requirements and the quality of teaching.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are kind and attentive and help children to settle. They comfort children when they are upset or unwell and give them encouragement and praise so they want to do well.
- Staff encourage good behaviour. They remind children to share, take turns and consider the feelings of others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure written parental permission is obtained before any medication (both prescription and non-prescription) is administered to a child 	21/10/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve partnerships with parents to ensure they are given regular feedback to keep them informed about their child's progress and provide opportunities for them to contribute information about their child's interests to support learning at home 	21/11/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve the use of observations and assessments in order to identify next steps in children's learning and help them make good progress. 	21/11/2015

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

- strengthen further the organisation of some routine activities so that all children remain interested and involved
- improve the use of self-evaluation to closely monitor the strengths and weaknesses, and identify areas to improve to raise outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outdoor area.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, planning documents, policies and procedures, and evidence of the qualifications and suitability of all staff.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector had discussions with the manager and deputy manager of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents, carers, staff and the children.

Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the safeguarding policies and procedures and know what to do to report any concerns about children in their care. However, staff do not always follow the policy for administering medication. There is a suitable recruitment procedure to check that all staff are suitable to work with young children. The manager arranges training for staff and provides regular supervision meetings to identify areas of staff practice to improve. The manager and staff do not use self-evaluation effectively to monitor the strengths and identify the weaknesses in practice and the breaches of the legal requirements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Not all staff complete regular observations and assessments of children's learning. Staff are not fully aware of children's current skills and interests in order to plan appropriate next steps in their learning. Overall, staff organise activities that children enjoy. However, some group activities are less well organised and children become distracted and lose concentration. Staff engage children in discussions and model language during their play. For example, they ask questions to encourage children's communication, language development and thinking skills. Partnerships with parents do not support continuity in children's learning. Some parents feel they do not get enough information about their child's progress or ideas to support their learning further at home. Staff share information about children with other settings that children attend.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff do not ensure that they have written permission from parents in order to administer medication to children. This does not fully support children's well-being. However, children enjoy their time at the nursery and are generally engaged in the activities and resources provided. They select from a wide range of resources indoors and outdoors. Children are confident and develop appropriate independence skills. Staff praise and encourage children as they play. Children enjoy daily physical play and fresh air in the outdoor area.

Outcomes for children require improvement

The inconsistent assessment of children's learning hinders the progress children are able to make. Children are not fully prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435722
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	986819
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Queen's Crescent Community Association
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2012
Telephone number	02072676635

The Caversham Nursery registered in 2011. It is based in Kentish Town, in the London Borough of Camden. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, throughout the year. The nursery employs 13 staff, all of whom hold recognised childcare qualifications. One member of staff is an Early Years Teacher. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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