# Tiddley Tots Nursery

Barnsbury Community Centre, Jays Street, London N1 0TY



Inspection date Previous inspection date	30 September 2015 6 November 2014		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

# Summary of key findings for parents

#### This provision is good

- Leaders, the manager and the whole staff team focus on making sure teaching is consistently good or better as they want all children to have a good start and succeed.
- Staff observe children carefully and monitor their development regularly. They use this information skilfully to plan well-targeted activities to help all children make good progress in their learning. Help is sought promptly if a child needs extra support.
- Parents and staff work well together to support children's development. Parents are keen to extend their child's learning at home, using activities suggested by the nursery. Leaders value parents' views and act upon their feedback.
- Babies are confident to explore independently in the nursery's calm and welcoming environment. They build strong relationships with the staff. This helps them to feel safe and secure. Settling-in arrangements are managed flexibly to meet the needs of each child and family individually.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe and take steps to minimise identified risks.

#### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Leaders and managers do not always evaluate thoroughly how effective their actions have been and whether these have improved outcomes for children.
- The monitoring of progress made by different groups of children is at an early stage of development.

### What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen evaluation of the nursery's provision by assessing more thoroughly the impact of changes made to help improve practice even further
- extend the monitoring of children's progress to include an assessment of any differences in the progress made by specific groups of children, so provision can be tailored more closely to the needs of these groups.

#### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times of the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the provider.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's assessment records, the nursery's self-evaluation and action plan, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery and sampled policies and procedures including the safeguarding policy.

#### Inspector

Marian Pearson HMI

# **Inspection findings**

#### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers have a good understanding of how children learn and how to keep children safe. They have a realistic view of the nursery's strengths and have set clear targets for continuous improvement. However, they do not fully assess the impact of the changes they make on children's learning and development. Regular supervision, feedback on practice and a well-focused training programme have improved staff's teaching skills, in particular, the quality of their observations and planning. Safeguarding arrangements are effective. Use of appropriate recruitment procedures ensure staff are suitable and well-qualified for their roles. Staff have a sound knowledge of how to identify concerns about a child's well-being and the steps to take to address these. Strong links with parents promote continuity in care practices and children's learning. Parents value the daily feedback about their child's day and contribute regularly to their learning journals.

#### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good throughout the nursery as staff are skilled at supporting and extending children's learning. Babies are encouraged to try different sensory experiences. They explore with interest the change in texture when water is added to flour and how dough becomes longer when they roll it with their hands. Children play purposefully when they lead they own play, using a good range of readily accessible resources. They are keen to join in group activities, such as circle time, which form part of the day's routine. These sessions are led effectively by well-qualified staff who encourage children to communicate their views, learn to take turns and assume responsibilities as the 'helper of the day'. Children are well prepared for school. They engage eagerly in a fun approach to learning letter sounds, which provides them with a secure basis for learning to read.

#### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are caring and attentive to children's individual needs. For example, they are sensitive to babies' need for rest, encouraging them to sit quietly and share a book. They understand some children take time to eat a meal and do not rush to clear the food away. Children behave well and are developing a sense of how to promote their own well-being. Staff ensure boundaries are applied consistently so children understand what is expected of them. Pre-school children are taught to use knives safely; they prepare fruit for snack competently, developing their independence and management of risks. Play areas are bright and inviting; displays of children's work and photographs of themselves promote a sense of belonging and self-esteem. Staff help children to gain an understanding of how other people live. For example, they visit the supermarket to buy food to help provide meals for homeless people and learn about different festivals celebrated by their friends.

#### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Staff observe children regularly and assess their level of development accurately. The recently introduced tracking system helps staff to monitor carefully how well children are progressing and plan activities to address any gaps identified in specific areas of learning. This work is at an early stage and does not extend to reviewing different groups of children, other than by age.

# Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468367
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	1017503
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Tiddley Tots Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	6 November 2014
Telephone number	0207 837 2737

Tiddley Tots Nursery registered in 2013 and is part of a group of three nurseries operated by a private company, Tiddley Tots Nursery Limited. The nursery is situated within Barnsbury Community Centre in Islington. The nursery operates on weekdays from 8am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery provides both full-time and part-time sessions and receives funding to provide early education places for children aged three and four years. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. It supports children who are learning to speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs six members of staff to work with the children, including the manager. All hold appropriate childcare qualifications, including one who holds Qualified Teacher Status.

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