

Horizons Day Nursery & Pre-school

165 Hither Green Lane, Lewisham, London, SE13 6QF



Inspection date

18 November 2015

Previous inspection date

18 June 2012

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Outcomes for children | | Outstanding | 1 |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff make thorough and regular assessments of children's excellent progress which they evaluate comprehensively. They use this information highly effectively to form accurate next steps for children's learning. This helps to ensure that children's needs are met precisely.
- Children are highly confident, very articulate and keen learners. The staff focus on children's personal development is exceptional. Children are confident to show how they feel and why, and offer each other extremely good support.
- Staff manage children's behaviour very well and children are extremely polite and courteous.
- Monitoring of the nursery is highly effective. The manager enables staff to observe and learn from each other and also carries out management-led observations to provide feedback and improve staff skills.
- The manager follows a comprehensive system for supervisions and appraisals to identify staff training needs to improve their teaching skills. Staff attended a course on communication and language which led to more ways to promote children's language during play.
- Frequent, comprehensive checks are made on planning and children's assessments to ensure that they are of the highest quality and are used to promote best learning. The manager monitors and tracks the progress of specific groups of children so that gaps in learning can be quickly identified and closed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the already excellent outdoor provision to promote best learning for children who prefer to play outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and held discussions with management.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children, and considered their views.

Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff have highly effective links with external agencies, including health professionals, parents and local schools to support children's learning. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have very secure understanding of how to identify concerns about a child's welfare and to report these promptly. Staff receive regular safeguarding training and this is extended to parents to help safeguard children further. All staff are trained in first aid which provides excellent levels of protection for children in the event of an accident or emergency. The manager has astute knowledge of regulations in relation to her role to provide the best learning experiences for children in a very secure environment. She evaluates the provision thoroughly and has formed highly relevant goals for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is exceptional. Staff promote children's early reading and writing skills extremely well. Children have a secure knowledge of letters and sounds; they can recognise their names and some write their names independently. Staff promote children's understanding in excellent ways, such as linking cooking experiences to a theme of 'light and dark'. Staff use this opportunity to explore the theme, teach children new words, and promote their understanding of the world extremely well. Staff use all opportunities to promote children's learning in excellent ways, and children develop very good early mathematics skills. Overall, staff present children with highly stimulating and challenging experiences. They promote their climbing, balancing and physical coordination skills well, but provide slightly fewer all-round experiences for children who enjoy outdoor learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely independent. For example, they put on their shoes, help to set lunch tables and prepare snacks themselves. Staff offer children nutritious meals and snacks so that they learn to adopt healthy lifestyles. Staff teach children about people from the wider world in highly effective ways. They teach children about diversity and provide them with a very wide range of multicultural resources. Children discuss and celebrate special events as part of learning about valuing differences. Staff motivate children to learn effectively. For instance, they tailor activities linked to children's interests which results in high engagement in learning overall. Staff teach children to be careful and attentive as they play, but balance this well so that children learn to take supervised risks for themselves. This helps children to develop an excellent awareness of safety.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make exceptional progress ready for school. Staff have very secure knowledge of how children learn. They use their excellent skills to provide highly challenging learning opportunities to promote exceptional learning outcomes for all children.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | 129012 |
| Local authority | Lewisham |
| Inspection number | 1025594 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 0 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 35 |
| Number of children on roll | 40 |
| Name of provider | Horizons Day Nursery & Pre-school Limited |
| Date of previous inspection | 18 June 2012 |
| Telephone number | 0208 318 4125 |

Horizons Day Nursery and Pre-school is one of two settings privately owned and managed by Horizons Day Nursery and Pre-school Limited. It opened in 2000 and is located in Hither Green in the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, for 49 weeks of the year. The provider employs eight staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager and one member of staff hold Early Years Professional Status. The provider receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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