

Laurel Way Playgroup

Nansen Villiage, 21 Woodside Avenue, London, N12 8AQ



Inspection date	25 November 2015
Previous inspection date	15 December 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 develop excellent relationships with parents. They work with parents to help children settle in well and offer support to promote their child's learning at home.
- Staff are highly responsive to the needs of the children and promote their learning exceptionally well. Children are exceptionally engaged and focus well on activities.
- All children make excellent progress in their learning and development. Staff skilfully use ongoing observation and assessment to accurately identify children's abilities. They plan precisely to promote each child's next steps in learning.
- The leadership and management are inspirational. Accurate and rigorous self-evaluation supports staff to successfully promote continuous improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement plans to enhance the extremely high level of support for staff.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities outdoors and in the main room where children were present on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector talked to some of the parents.
- The inspector examined a selection of documents, including policies and procedures, and documents to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector looked at a variety of children's records, including observations, assessments and planning.
- The inspector talked to the manager and the staff, and carried out a joint observation.

Inspector

Alexandra Samara

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The headteacher has an excellent knowledge of child development and the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She regularly analyses the needs and starting points of the children in order to plan a highly effective learning programme. For example, she is focusing on supporting children to work as part of a group. The headteacher is highly reflective of the practice and has an excellent understanding of the setting's strengths and areas for development. She skilfully monitors the educational programme and provides staff with superb ongoing support and guidance. Recruitment processes are efficient and highly robust. The headteacher ensures that all staff are suitable and knowledgeable about how to protect children. For example, staff attend regular child protection training. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their expert knowledge of how children learn and develop to support and motivate them. All children make outstanding progress. Sensitive observations and accurate assessments help staff to skilfully plan challenging next steps in each child's learning. For example, children develop excellent communication skills when they share experiences as a group. Staff use a visual board that encourages children to choose from a broad range of stimulating learning opportunities that reflect their interests. Children thoroughly engage in their self-chosen tasks. Partnership working with parents is highly effective and leads to continuity between the setting and home. Staff are consistently responsive to the children's needs and effectively develop their social skills. For example, children are extremely cooperative when working together in a creative task. Teaching is consistently of high quality, and staff prepare children effectively for their move to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff create a calm atmosphere and offer first-rate support for children to develop their social skills and respect for others. Children's behaviour is exceptionally positive. They settle extremely well and eagerly share with parents the learning they enjoy in the nursery. Parents comment extremely positively on the support offered to them. There are extremely effective arrangements to help children settle into school. For example, the strong skills of the key persons and the very good relationships with local schools prepare children very well emotionally for the next step in their learning. Children are happy, settled and extremely independent.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Staff accurately and promptly identify and address any gaps in children's learning. They motivate children extremely well to be enthusiastic and independent learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	147570
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	836744
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	Susan Farber
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2010
Telephone number	020 8445 7514

Laurel Way Playgroup registered in 1992. It is located in the Woodside Park area, in the London Borough of Barnet. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday, during term time only. It opens from 8.15am to 3pm. There are six members of staff, of whom two hold Early Years Professional Status and the remaining staff all hold qualifications from level 2 to level 4. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged three and four years.

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