

Windmill Nursery

Brent CP School, London Road, Stone, Dartford, Kent, DA2 6BA



Inspection date

7 January 2016

Previous inspection date

4 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 provide children with an exceptional range of high-quality learning experiences. Children are extremely motivated, and eager to explore and learn.
- The nursery has a wealth of resources that children thoroughly enjoy. Staff use the equipment exceptionally well to inspire children's curiosity and develop their excellent concentration skills.
- Children, including the large majority of those who are learning English as an additional language, make better than expected progress for their age. They gain excellent skills for their future learning.
- Staff support disabled children and those who have special additional needs exceptionally well. They work extremely well with school teachers, parents and external professionals to combine their expert knowledge to support children extensively.
- Staff manage children's behaviour in an exceptional way. They are excellent role models, and sensitively remind children about the behaviour expectations, such as respecting others, sharing and taking turns.
- Parents and carers have excellent opportunities to be involved with their children's learning and development. This helps to develop a highly consistent and shared approach to their children's assessments and progress.
- There is ongoing evaluation of the nursery. The views of all staff, children, parents and other professionals are highly valued and included in the evaluation process. The manager sets and reviews continuous targets to maintain the very high standards.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to strengthen opportunities for children to develop their already excellent literacy skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Zalihe Mehmet-Emin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of their role in protecting children. They are exceptionally well qualified and continue to develop their skills and knowledge, such as through training, to ensure their teaching is of the highest quality. The manager provides excellent support to staff so that their practice constantly improves. For example, since their last inspection, they have implemented an extremely precise tracking system that helps them to thoroughly check the progress of individual and different groups of children. Through using this, staff identified that not all children were always successfully involved in all activities. Managers continue to recognise further areas to build on, such as strengthening opportunities for children to develop their writing skills to extend their excellent literacy development even further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff undertake regular observations and precise assessments of children's learning and use this information highly effectively to plan for their individual next steps in learning. Staff very quickly identify and address gaps in children's development, for example, they provide additional support to help children make further progress. Children are extremely enthusiastic learners who use resources very imaginatively and creatively. For example, a group of younger children engaged with staff extremely well and explored the impact of rain on sand and how this helped them to make sandcastles. Staff make excellent use of every opportunity to extensively encourage children to reflect and build on what they know. For example, when children pretended to cook in the mud kitchen, they showed an excellent knowledge of how to keep themselves safe in a real-life situation.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff involve children exceptionally well in the preparation of nutritious snacks to help them develop an excellent understanding of healthy eating. For example, children learn to use safety knives to cut up fruits and vegetables independently, including ones they have grown. They develop high levels of confidence in their abilities and skills. Staff promote children's physical health and development exceptionally well and provide them with excellent opportunities for fresh air and exercise. For example, children participate in daily physical activity, where staff encourage children to listen to their heartbeats, and discuss the importance of daily exercise. Toys and equipment reflect children's backgrounds, such as resources in the home corner. This helps to value children and provides them with familiar resources to build on their imaginative play extremely well.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in learning from their starting points. They are extremely well prepared for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	154414
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1008892
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	Windmill Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2015
Telephone number	01322 229393

Windmill Nursery registered in 2001 after moving from premises nearby. It is on the site of Brent County Primary School in Dartford. The nursery receives funding for free early education for children aged three and four years. The group opens five days a week, for two sessions daily, during school term times. Sessions are from 9am to 12 noon and 1pm to 4pm. There are 10 members of staff employed to work with the children. Of these, one member of staff has an early years foundation degree and another has a degree in early years education.

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