

# The Castle Kindergarten

20 Henfield Road, Wimbledon, London, SW19 3HU



## Inspection date

7 March 2016

Previous inspection date

18 November 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- The quality of teaching is exemplary. Staff skilfully extend children's learning, consistently encouraging them to think about and solve problems. Children delight in working things out for themselves, for example, when investigating and identifying insects they find outdoors.
- Staff provide parents with extensive support. For example, they suggest exciting activities and lend inspiring resources to parents to support their children's learning and development further at home. Parents are exceptionally complimentary about the setting and comment on how completely involved they are in their children's learning.
- Staff monitor children's progress and achievements extremely closely and quickly identify any children who may need extra support. They work exceptionally closely with other professionals and use highly successful strategies to close achievement gaps. All children make excellent progress from their initial starting points.
- Staff are exceptionally caring and attentive to children's needs. They act as excellent role models and the children behave exceptionally well. All staff use exemplary methods to encourage children to listen to, and respect each other.
- The managers evaluate the progress of the pre-school meticulously. They actively seek the views of staff, parents and other professionals to review their practices accurately. There is continuous improvement in meeting the children's needs.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the already excellent learning opportunities, to encourage the children's exploration of nature.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact that these had on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedure.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Ben Parsons

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

The inspirational managers lead by example and supervise the staff extremely closely. Staff frequently access relevant training courses, which significantly contributes to the outstanding quality of teaching. The pre-school has excellent links with local schools and uses highly organised arrangements to help children's move to school go smoothly. Through meticulous self-evaluation, the managers have identified the need to continue to develop the excellent opportunities to encourage children's exploration of nature. Safeguarding is effective. The managers ensure that all staff receive high levels of training to develop their excellent understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

Staff skilfully plan and extend extremely exciting and challenging learning opportunities for all children. For example, children thoroughly enjoy working together to learn the sounds of different letters written on balls, while excitedly throwing them to each other. Children are exceptionally engaged in their learning and thoroughly enjoy taking on roles in their imaginary play. For instance, they busily serve each other in the role play shop and confidently use weighing scales to weigh different food. Staff extend children's natural play ideas extremely well. For example, they support children to measure themselves, and children delight in discovering and comparing their own height.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Staff meticulously plan the play areas with an extensive range of activities. There is a reason for everything that staff provide, which demonstrates the thought and commitment they give to meeting children's needs. Children arrive exceptionally happy and secure and have an excellent understanding of the routine. For example, they independently self-register, quickly and confidently finding and recognising their own names. Children consistently receive praise and encouragement throughout their play and take great pride in their achievements. They show excellent motivation in their learning and work extremely well together. For instance, during a story time they excitedly discuss how milk gets from the farm to the shops and delight in sharing their ideas.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

All children make excellent progress in all areas of their learning. They have a strong desire to solve problems themselves and have an excellent understanding of technology. They show excellent control over creative equipment and pay great attention to detail. Children develop an outstanding understanding of letter sounds and learn to write their names. Staff consistently extend children's language and mathematical understanding, and children demonstrate impressive skills. Children confidently gain the skills needed for their next stages in learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	138239
<b>Local authority</b>	Merton
<b>Inspection number</b>	825702
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	45
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	78
<b>Name of provider</b>	Beverly Jane Davis & Jaqui Kelly Partnership
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 November 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8544 0089

The Castle Kindergarten registered in 1994. It operates in Wimbledon, in the London Borough of Merton. The kindergarten is open each weekday from 9.15am to 12.15pm and each afternoon from 12.45pm to 3.45pm, during term time only. The setting employs 12 staff; of these, 10 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including three staff who hold Qualified Teacher Status. The setting receives government funding for children aged three and four years.

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