

# The Marmalade Caterpillar

Caterpillar Nursery, 14a Boundaries Road, London, SW12 8EX



## Inspection date

22 March 2016

Previous inspection date

20 January 2010

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

- Leaders make excellent use of their knowledge to sustain the exceptional high quality of the nursery's service. They use successful self-evaluation and checking methods, which include gathering the views of staff, parents and children, to monitor the effectiveness of all aspects of the provision.
- Staff have established exceptionally close partnerships with parents. They use a variety of different methods to share information with all parents, and engage them extremely well in their children's learning. For example, these include diaries, regular progress reviews, newsletters and invitations to join in activities with their children.
- The children have their individual care and learning needs met to an exceptionally high standard. They establish close attachments with the staff, from which they gain very high levels of confidence and self-esteem, and learn to respect others.
- Staff have extremely high expectations for what the children can achieve. They use their expert understanding of how the children learn to help all to make excellent progress, whatever their backgrounds and abilities. Staff provide inspiring experiences for children.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff even more with evaluating their own and other's practice to enhance it.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and during outdoor play.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection, and held a meeting with the manager and the nursery's owner.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery's owner.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff and children's records, and the owner's policies and procedures.

### Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager uses the new skills gained from attaining a higher-level qualification to be an excellent role model to the staff; staff describe him as 'dedicated and inspirational'. The nursery's owner has established a strong ethos of professional development, such as through sharing staff learning between this and her other nurseries. She recognises that there is room for staff to enrich their teaching skills, for example, through extending collaborative working. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are vigilant about children's safety and prioritise their welfare. They keep their understanding of safeguarding procedures up to date. Staff work extremely closely with teachers from local schools to help the children to move on, and they make sure that children have competent skills to do so.

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

Staff gather detailed information from parents about their children's interests and levels of development, such as by visiting the children at home before they start nursery. Staff observe and assess the children's learning accurately, and they meticulously plan activities which engage and motivate the children. Staff take great care to adapt activities for different children. For example, during an activity about letter sounds, staff identified some children who could be challenged further to identify simple words. Staff continually enhance children's language skills, for example, by seizing chances to introduce the children to new words, including, 'earthquake'. Children particularly enjoy the opportunity to learn to say 'Hello' to their friends in a variety of languages.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff set excellent examples for the children to follow and consistent rules, such as being helpful to others, guide the children, who show immense kindness and consideration to others. Children play together cooperatively; for example, by working collectively to assemble a jigsaw. Older children assist the younger ones to zip up their coats, and staff are quick to acknowledge such helpfulness. Staff teach the children to respect those who are different from themselves, and they introduce them to different festivals and celebrations from around the world. Children make rapid progress in learning about healthy lifestyles. For example, during a cooking activity, children identified which ingredients were good for them and which were best kept as an occasional treat. Children know the dangers of using knives incorrectly, and they agree the nursery's rules, which help to keep them safe.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their education. They develop exceptional listening and attention skills, and many read simple words. Children are highly motivated to try new things, and are extremely confident and enthusiastic learners.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY379323
<b>Local authority</b>	Wandsworth
<b>Inspection number</b>	822300
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	59
<b>Name of provider</b>	Rosalind Jane Hyslop
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	20 January 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	0208 265 5224

The Marmalade Caterpillar nursery registered in 2008. It is located in Balham, in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The nursery is open each weekday during school terms from 8.45am until 4pm. There are six members of staff who all hold a relevant early years qualification between levels 3 and 6. The nursery is funded to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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