

# Hampden Childrens Centre

80 Polygon Road, London, NW1 1HQ



**Inspection date** 30 March 2016  
Previous inspection date 26 June 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Partnerships with parents are good and they are fully involved in their child's learning. Parents comment that they receive detailed feedback of how their child is developing and learning. They are given good quality information and ideas for activities that can be used at home to support their child's development.
- All activities are adapted to meet each child's needs. Children are all engaged in learning and keen to take part. Children explore, create and participate at a pace that suits their individual needs.
- Small-group sessions are tailored to fully support, challenge and encourage children at a suitable level. Well-qualified staff promote children's language and communication skills in targeted sessions. Children with special educational needs and more-able children all make good progress.
- Children behave well and are kind and considerate to each other. They learn to work together cooperatively on tasks. Children share and take turns fairly.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management of staff performance does not focus sharply on identifying areas where the quality of teaching can be strengthened even further.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus performance management for staff even more precisely on raising the quality of teaching to the highest levels.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed and discussed a joint observation with the nursery's manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager at an appropriate time during the inspection. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as, the nursery's self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff, a selection of policies and the children's learning records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Michelle Baldock

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff are aware of the procedure to follow if they have a concern regarding the safety or welfare of a child. The nursery has close links with children's centres in the local borough. Management from each of the centres meets together to share good practice and ideas. The nursery has built good relationships with settings that children move on to. Children's records are shared with the child's new setting in order to promote continuity of learning and staff help children to make a smooth transition. Management closely monitors children's progress and gaps in learning are swiftly identified. This enables targeted support to be given to ensure children's continued progress. Staff practice is evaluated through supervision and observation, but managers do not focus precisely on ways to raise the quality of teaching even further. The management team reflects on their practice. The views of parents and children are taken into account when areas for improvement are identified.

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

Staff use precise planning, observations and assessments to identify children's next steps in learning. Challenging activities support children to make continued progress. The well-qualified staff have a very good understanding of how children learn and develop. Children's interests are fully incorporated into activities. Children's language and social skills are extended, for instance, when children take part in acting out their favourite story. The nursery has dual language books and a toy library that parents can use to support their child's continued development at home. Children's understanding of mathematical concepts is strengthened, for example, when they work together to solve problems, such as how to fill the water tray with water.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children become independent from an early age. Children feel happy and safe in the warm and welcoming environment the staff have established. They are encouraged to put on their own coats and shoes before playing outside. They know to wash their hands before snack and meal times. Children learn about the natural world. They have fun in the outdoor mud kitchen, pretending to cook mud pies. Children benefit from Forest School sessions. They grow in confidence and learn to work closely in pairs and in teams to solve problems. Children quickly learn the skills of sharing and taking turns. Children learn to respect each others' differences. Key words in children's home languages are displayed around the nursery. Children take part in creative activities which staff plan to help them learn about each others' cultures.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children, including disabled children, those with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language, are making good progress from their starting points. Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and for moving on to school. Children are able to access the outside area at any time. This is very beneficial for children who prefer an outdoor learning experience. Children enjoy playing on the climbing frame. They explore the texture of coloured, glittered water and cornflour.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	100570
<b>Local authority</b>	Camden
<b>Inspection number</b>	1024302
<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 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	69
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	70
<b>Name of provider</b>	London Borough of Camden
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	26 June 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 7974 2841

Hampden Childrens Centre was registered in 1994. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with Qualified Teacher status and one with an early years degree. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 48 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language, disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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