

Little Crystals Day Nursery

49 Maberley Road, London, SE19 2JE



Inspection date

25 February 2016

Previous inspection date

10 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The provider and manager set high expectations for children's achievements. They have successfully taken action to meet all requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage since the last inspection.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff assess children's progress accurately and plan activities with care to capture children's interests and extend each child's learning. Children of all ages make good progress.
- Children are encouraged to play, investigate and explore using all their senses. Babies develop good listening skills as they move to musical sounds. Older children, pouring flour onto scales to learn about 'heavier' and 'lighter', concentrate intently as they enjoy the feel of flour running through their fingers.
- Staff and parents build highly positive relationships through daily discussions and regular meetings. Parents are kept well informed about their children's progress.
- Children are ready to try new experiences at every stage as they move on in the nursery and are well prepared to move on to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all improvements to the learning environment have been completed. Work to give children better access to the outdoor area and maximise its use is still in progress.
- Staff do not always set up activities to enable children to use and enjoy their emerging writing skills in a range of different play activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to improve the organisation of the learning environment, including access to the outdoor area, and enhance children's choice of places to play and learn
- provide more opportunities for all children to build on their emerging writing and mark making skills in more aspects of their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside. She spoke with staff and children at suitable times throughout the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, procedures and documents relating to the management of the nursery, including those relating to checks on the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took into account parents' written feedback to the nursery.

Inspector

Christine Davies HMI

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider and manager demonstrate their clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage in the improvements they have made. They passionately support children's learning and inspire an ambitious team of staff to develop their qualifications further. Safeguarding is effective. Recruitment, induction and staff supervision procedures meet requirements to ensure staff are suitable. Staff complete up-to-date safeguarding training. They follow the required policies and procedures when they have concerns about a child's welfare or development. The provider effectively incorporates the views of parents and children into the nursery's future development plans. This is evident in the changes made to children's sleeping arrangements and the plans for the garden.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan challenging activities to build on what children know and can do. Babies become sociable and confident when they sing, play and cook alongside older children in memorable festival activities. Older children listen intently to stories, read book titles and predict what will happen. They adapt resources imaginatively to act out stories from books and videos that they watch at home. They enjoy investigating 'what will happen if...?' when they play with models of story characters frozen into ice. Older Children count confidently up to 20 and beyond and many have a go at guessing 'how many..?' The pre-school group are keen to write the letters they know and some already write simple words. Resources such as pencils and crayons are available at all times indoors and outside, although staff do not demonstrate many ways children could use them during activities to express their thoughts with marks and letters.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff and parents communicate effectively through children's learning journals so children have good continuity in their care and learning routines between home and nursery. Staff adapt the environment and resources so that children are motivated throughout their day. Further work continues to improve the ramp to the garden. The baby room provides a stimulating and secure area for the youngest children. Staff support children to put forward their views. For example, children discuss what the role-play area will be next; they vote by putting bricks in a jar to make it into a post office. Children learn to move around safely and behave responsibly, especially when babies are near. Staff teach children how to stay healthy, for instance, by encouraging them to eat nutritious food, follow good hygiene practices such as hand washing and take healthy exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children with starting points below those that are typical for their age, particularly in communication and language, become confident talkers. Resources secured with additional funding, such as durable outdoor sensory-play equipment, motivate children to try new experiences. This supports children's good progress. Some older children excel in reading and number skills and love to practice them when given the opportunity. All children are well prepared with the personal, social and learning skills they need for moving on to the next step in their education, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137236
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	1036462
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	Crystal Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	10 April 2015
Telephone number	020 8771 0393

Little Crystals Day Nursery opened in 1994. It is one of three nurseries provided by Crystal Childcare Limited. The nursery operates from the ground floor of a semi-detached house. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm, from Monday to Friday for 50 weeks a year. The nursery provides for children who have special educational needs or disability, as well as for children who speak English as an additional language. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years and for children eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium. The nursery employs six members of staff including the manager, all of whom have a relevant early years qualification. Staff from other nurseries within the Crystal Childcare Limited group occasionally work with the children. The nursery also employs a cook and a cleaner.

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