

Stockwell Gardens Nursery

YMCA, King Georges House, 40-46 Stockwell Road, London, SW9 9ES



Inspection date	16 May 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff observe children well to establish their interests and identify the next steps in their learning. They use this information well to ensure children make good progress from their starting points, including children who are learning English as an additional language and those who receive additional funding.
- Children are happy, settled and form strong bonds with staff. The key-person arrangements and care practices effectively support children's physical and emotional well-being.
- Staff use a range of successful strategies to engage the parents well in their children's learning. For example, parents receive home learning packs and books to extend their child's learning at home.
- The managers closely monitor the progress children make to target improvements. For example, they noticed some areas where children were making less good progress and put in place specific help.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always organise activities as well as possible to provide the highest levels of challenge, fully promoting children's thinking and engagement.
- Managers have not fully embedded all opportunities to help staff raise the quality of their teaching to the highest possible levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the organisation of activities, to provide the highest levels of appropriate challenge, ensuring all children are engaged as well as possible
- strengthen the existing opportunities for staff to reflect on their own and others' teaching to raise teaching practice to the highest standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff interaction with the children, and viewed the toys, resources and equipment.
- The inspector held discussions with the management, staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, staff professional development and the evaluation process. The inspector looked at the children's records and discussed how staff assess children's progress.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider ensures that staff have a good understanding of how to manage, and minimise, risks to children. The lengthy experience of both the leadership team and the appointed managers has contributed to the successful and rapid building of a new staff team since opening. Regular monitoring and observations of staff performance are in place. All staff attend ongoing training to develop knowledge and practice, including a specifically designed core curriculum delivered by the provider. This has a positive impact on outcomes for children. For example, staff improve their planning for children based on new knowledge. Managers seek parents' and children's views regularly, in order to help tailor the provision to their children's needs and parents are well-informed of changes within the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children quickly make progress in developing their speaking skills due to sensitive staff support during activities and routines. For example, they benefit from planned small group time to develop their speech and language. Children enjoy a variety of activities that promote their development in numeracy and their awareness of shapes and spaces. For example, staff count with younger children as they sing well-known songs and older children count woodlice they find under a log. Children enjoy a range of activities that develop their ability to make marks, in preparation for learning to write. For example, younger children enjoy making marks in a cornflour mixture. Older children recognise letters as they play with paint and alphabet blocks. Babies and toddlers receive particularly good support to develop their physical skills and learn to talk.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The atmosphere throughout the nursery is particularly calm and children are confident in the relaxed and happy environment. Staff are patient and provide very responsive support when children are struggling to understand expectations. All children are learning to take turns, share toys and play with other children. Staff promote children's independence. They enjoy helping themselves to food at mealtimes and clearing away their dirty plates. They learn about healthy lifestyles and keeping safe in many activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children concentrate and communicate well together. For example, children playing with buckets of water decided to mix water into the sand tray. When the water level dropped, they used their thinking skills to work out how to reach the water at the bottom. Children talk confidently with adults. They gain the necessary skills that will help them in the next stage of learning and school. For example, toddlers learn songs they will sing in their next room. Preschool children learn to be independent, listen well and count.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY487129
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	1007689
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	The London Early Years Foundation
Registered person unique reference number	RP901332
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	020 77375033

Stockwell Gardens Nursery is one of a group of nurseries managed under The London Early Years Foundation. The nursery registered in 2015. The nursery is situated within the building of YMCA in Stockwell, London. The nursery is open 51 weeks of the year, closing for a week at Christmas. A team of nine core staff work with the children. All hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager holds a degree in Early Childhood Studies. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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