

Highbury Day Nursery

Unit A The Nursery, Highbury Stadium Square, Highbury Mews, London, N5 1FP



Inspection date

26 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

- The premises are spacious, clean and welcoming. The manager is efficient in her organisation. Her paperwork is clear and well-maintained. Staff make good use of the notice boards to inform both visitors and parents.
- Staff are supportive and caring. Young children settle in well and quickly gain confidence. They are encouraged to make choices during activities and at mealtimes. Children show an increasing ability to focus on their chosen tasks and they behave well.
- Staff promote children's good health effectively. They provide regular opportunities for outdoor play, including outings in the local area. They are particularly vigilant concerning children's dietary needs and preferences.
- Staff teach well and are particularly good at using their observations of children's learning to develop it further. Older children enjoy a variety of interesting activities in all areas, which prepare them effectively for school.
- The manager encourages staff to reflect on their work and engage in further training, to develop their expertise and understanding.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to encourage children to think more and to express themselves in their own way.
- Staff do not always help children to become more independent in their learning and discovery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to think more deeply and develop their communication skills and understanding
- make better use of opportunities to help children develop their own ideas in different ways to enhance their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in a wide range of activities.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke with the nursery manager and members of staff.
- The inspector sampled documentation, with a particular focus on children's progress and safeguarding.

Inspector

Jill Nugent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is fully aware of her responsibilities regarding statutory requirements. She is well supported by fellow professionals within the providing organisation. Together they reflect and plan for the continuing development of the nursery. There are rigorous systems for monitoring and checking children's progress. This enables the manager to respond to any aspects of teaching and learning that need further improvement. Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that potential risks are assessed carefully and in detail. Staff are knowledgeable about child protection issues. They liaise closely with parents to offer appropriate care to children. Parents appreciate the variety of ways in which staff communicate with them. In addition there is good information about local schools to help parents when moving children on to their next setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a stimulating mix of activities, indoors and outdoors. They plan effectively around children's individual learning needs. Younger children especially enjoy the opportunities to explore materials in different ways, for example, they have fun mixing colours into cornflour. Older children extend their understanding of the world by, for example, engaging in simple scientific experiments. Staff take account of children's interests when planning activities on a special theme, such as insects or dinosaurs. Staff use activities imaginatively to help children gain useful skills in language, literacy and mathematics. Children have good access to books and enjoy sharing them with adults. Older children enjoy opportunities to explore and experiment creatively using different art materials.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff enhance children's play in a variety of ways. For example, they take part in children's imaginative play in the outdoor 'mud kitchen'. Staff promote a calm, relaxed atmosphere and develop close relationships with children. They supervise them carefully when moving around the premises, for instance, between the indoor and outdoor play areas. Children are well behaved, attentive and wait patiently for a turn when necessary. Staff encourage children to be aware of personal safety, for example, when using tools in creative activities. Children enjoy eating healthy meals, consisting of a variety of vegetables and fruit, which are cooked on the premises.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and show a sense of belonging. They make good progress in their learning, given what they know when they start. They are keen learners and develop a range of useful skills for the future, for example, they are enthusiastic about labelling their own pictures. They are well prepared for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490889
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	1023008
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	70
Number of children on roll	61
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0207 354 5866

Highbury Day Nursery registered in 2015. It operates from a purpose-built building in Arsenal in the London Borough of Islington. It is open every weekday from 7.30am until 6pm, throughout the year. The nursery employs 19 staff, the majority of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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