

Agar Children Centre

Agar Childrens Centre, Wrotham Road, London, NW1 9SU



Inspection date

9 June 2016

Previous inspection date

11 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- The manager is extremely dedicated and committed to maintaining the highest quality of provision. She demonstrates a strong vision, determination and passion for continual improvement. Self-evaluation is accurate and includes the views of staff, children and parents. This has contributed to several improvements to achieve the current significantly high standards in the nursery.
- The quality of teaching is excellent and all the staff are extremely knowledgeable about the level of development of the children in their care. Staff have extremely high expectations for what the children can achieve. The superb range of learning experiences successfully motivates and inspires young minds. Children are highly confident learners and they thoroughly relish their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional and a particular strength at the provision. The setting values parents as partners and places the highest priority on working closely with all families.
- Children's learning and development are thoroughly monitored and staff maintain children's individual learning records to a very high standard. Written observations of the children's learning are very detailed and highly focused on what children need to do next. Regular involvement of parents leads to excellent planning for future learning. Children make outstanding progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend even further the opportunities for children to develop their thinking and speaking skills by giving them more time to respond to adults' questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed the outcomes of an activity.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of staff suitability checks, training and qualifications, policies, procedures and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Laxmi Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager is extremely supportive of staff. She inspires staff to achieve the highest standards in teaching and learning. The staff are encouraged to review their work and to access relevant guidance. This significantly improves outcomes for children and contributes to the outstanding quality of teaching. For example, following staff training, the children now enjoy extensive opportunities to investigate the natural environment, which stimulates their curiosity. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding children and know the correct procedure to follow if they have concerns. Robust procedures are in place for recruiting and retaining suitable members of staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly skilled at planning a very wide range of interesting and challenging activities. Children are extremely inspired and set up new ways of playing, such as role play as builders. Staff interact extremely skilfully to extend children's learning during play. For example, when children enthusiastically plant grass seeds, the staff encourage them to think for themselves about what they need for them to grow, and discuss what might happen. Staff constantly encourage children's communication and language skills, although, at times, they do not give children long enough to reply. Staff are highly skilled as they support children to acquire early mathematical skills. For example, children learn about centimetres when they measure and skilfully saw a piece of wood.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff use excellent settling-in procedures, which help children to become very confident to learn in the secure environment. For example, children readily ask for help when they need it and play alongside their friends extremely amicably. Children are exceptionally well behaved and their self-control is exceptional. They have an excellent understanding of routines, and they know the safety routines for forest activities exceptionally well. Staff strengthen children's confidence and sense of belonging very well. They constantly praise children for their achievements and encourage them to manage their own risks. Children are full of smiles and are extremely happy.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are very well supported to continually build on their skills. Children show care and respect for each other. They learn to work together, share and take turns. Children are highly motivated and maintain excellent concentration for extremely good periods of time on activities. They show a secure sense of well-being, which contributes to them being very well equipped with the skills required for future learning and exceptionally well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY384715
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	1028405
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	63
Name of registered person	London Borough of Camden
Registered person unique reference number	RP517467
Date of previous inspection	11 June 2013
Telephone number	02079744677

The childcare setting registered in December 2008 and is part of Agar Children's Centre. It operates in Agar Grove Estate, in the London Borough of Camden. The setting opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm all year round, except for Christmas and bank holidays. The setting provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of 33 members of staff is employed to work with the children. This includes the manager and deputy. All staff hold early years qualifications, the majority at level 3. There are three members of staff who have qualified teacher status and three staff with qualifications at level 6. The setting supports children who have special educational needs or disability and those who speak English as an additional language.

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