

Head Start Day Nursery and Preschool

Headstart Day Nursery, 83a, London, SE13 5AX



Inspection date

9 September 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 managers have a positive attitude to developing their provision and the opportunities they offer to children. They complete regular evaluations of their practice and listen to the views of parents, staff and children. This helps to improve the range of experiences offered to children.
- Staff know the children well and follow their interests to plan a wide range of activities. Children enjoy learning through play and make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff share a wide range of information with parents to help keep them informed about their children's learning and development.
- Children are happy and settled. They form good relationships with staff and each other. They are confident, independent and have high levels self-esteem.
- Children have many opportunities to learn the skills they need to prepare them for the next stage in their learning. They enjoy group activities, which helps to develop their concentration, and share their thoughts with staff about school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make effective use of questions to encourage children to extend their thoughts and ideas as they play.
- Staff have not yet developed a wide range of opportunities to help the younger children build on their physical skills, particularly when playing outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend further staff's use of questions to help children to think and respond fully as they play
- develop further the opportunities for younger children to develop their physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector and the manager completed joint observations together.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including accident records, staff suitability checks and children's records.

Inspector

Karen Scott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Thorough recruitment and induction procedures help to check staff's suitability and prepare them well for their role. Staff attend training that helps them to feel confident and aware of how to safeguard children. Systems for monitoring staff performance are good. Staff's strengths are celebrated and they put their individual skills to good use to benefit children. For example, staff who are skilled at using sign language work with younger children to help them develop effective communication. Staff share what they have learnt with others to develop practice. The manager has a good overview of how individual and groups of children are developing and takes action to ensure all children have opportunities to make progress. For example, after observing children's interest in transport, staff added pencils and clipboards alongside the other resources to encourage all children to practise their writing skills in their play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children benefit from the positive interactions from staff. They deploy themselves effectively around the setting to offer support and guidance when children need help. Children enjoy playing with water and cubes. They explore, investigate and observe the effect of water poured over them. Staff sit with the children and expand on their learning. For example, they suggest that children change the shape of the structure to see what happens. Children enjoy activities that help them to develop an understanding of the world. For example, they use their hands and senses to explore leaves. Children make independent choices about what they play with and enjoy involving others in their games.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show a good understanding of safety. For example, when children use toy bricks to build a wall, other children offer a safety hat. Children independently take care of their own care needs. For example, they know to wash and dry their hands after art and craft activities without prompting. Children help themselves to drinks after being physically active and learn about the effects of exercise on their bodies. Parents work closely with key persons to ensure that children settle successfully and their needs are met.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They enjoy a range of activities that help them to develop good mathematical understanding. For example, children enjoy making cards for number and shape games. They share and take turns well as they play. Children are well prepared for school. For example, they learn a wide range of skills, such as communication and social skills, which helps them to interact confidently with other adults and children they meet.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY492676
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	1026207
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 - 5
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	56
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02088528071

Head Start Day Nursery and Preschool registered in 2015 under new ownership. It is part of a large chain owned by Bright Horizons. It operates from a large converted house in Lewisham, in the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery and pre-school operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, 51 weeks a year. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 17 members of staff. Twelve members of staff hold recognised early years qualifications.

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