

Merchant Square Pre School Nursery

5 North Wharf Road, London, W2 1LE



Inspection date

15 June 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

- Leaders and managers make carefully planned improvements to the learning environment, based on accurate monitoring and assessment of children's progress.
- Teaching is of a high quality. The indoor spaces are well organised so resources are accessible to children and staff. Staff make extensive use of outings in the community to extend children's experience in all areas of learning.
- Staff form purposeful, warm and welcoming relationships with children. Positive partnerships with support agencies and parents ensure effective plans are in place for children with special educational needs and that they are included.
- Children draw and talk about their ideas. Their views are taken into account in planning a wide range of activities. Children are excited to come to nursery and enjoy their learning.
- Children have time to play and explore safely using all their senses. They can easily find the resources that they need to reconstruct stories and play imaginatively. Children become absorbed in their learning and demonstrate high levels of concentration.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff supervise children well but do not routinely involve children in assessing risks on daily outings. As a result, children's learning about how to keep themselves safe is not developing as well as possible.
- Staff are inconsistent in their use of strategies to support communication with children who are at an early stage of speaking English.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve children more fully in assessing risks on daily outings and strengthen children's awareness of how to keep themselves safe
- use the nursery's varied strategies more consistently to support children in their communication and language development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and on an outing. 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 provider's representative and 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 account of their views and written feedback to the nursery.

Inspector

Christine Davies HMI

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers implement effective progress tracking and staff monitoring based on their good knowledge of the early years foundation stage requirements. Staff supervision, training and support result in effective team work and staff development. The manager takes the views and comments of parents into account in the nursery's development plans. Safeguarding is effective. Recruitment, induction, supervision and training procedures ensure staff are suitable for their roles. Good partnerships have been developed with children's services and other early help agencies. Staff follow appropriate procedures when concerns arise about a child's welfare or development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff take strong account of children's views. As a result, activities are tailored to individual needs and children are keen to try them. Children choose dressing up and find the construction and creative resources they want to build their own small worlds. Staff encourage children's interest in writing letters from their name and recognising words. For example they read the names of boats when out on walks. Staff explain and clarify words carefully to expand children's understanding. They ensure children who are at a very early stage of speaking English and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are included in activities. Some staff use different approaches, such as sign language, pictures and props to help communicate clearly with all children. However, not all staff use these different approaches consistently well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff, parents and children build positive relationships to help children settle well. Parents value the detailed daily handovers from staff. Parents contribute stories and domestic objects from their diverse cultures to support children's learning. The nursery promotes good health very well. It provides nutritious meals that meet the religious and health needs of each child. Physical development is promoted well. Highly skilled staff teach children running, balancing, catching and throwing skills when playing in the park. Children's behaviour is good. They follow the positive example set by managers and staff. Staff assess risks indoors and outside and supervise children closely to ensure their safety. They keep children safe with reminders of simple rules that are already established. However, staff do not fully involve children in discussions on safety, for example when planning where to cross the roads on outings, to promote their learning further.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. This includes children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children use language, literacy and math skills that are typical for their age. For example, they talk about more or less, and pretend to write notes in an imaginary baby clinic. Some are beginning to relate numbers to objects accurately as they count to 20. Children have a good range of skills and experiences to help them take their next steps in learning. The oldest children are confident, independent and socially ready for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494226
Local authority	Westminster
Inspection number	1051613
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Merchant Square Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908104
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02077249935

Merchant Square Pre-School Nursery registered in 2015. It is one of two nurseries, working in partnership, run by Merchant Square Day Nurseries Limited. The nursery operates from ground floor premises within a residential block. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm all year round, except for Christmas week and bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-olds. It provides for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and for children who speak English as an additional language. The manager is qualified to degree level. She is assisted by four members of staff, of whom three hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is an apprentice.

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