

The Kids' Academy

The Kids Academy, Moulsham School, Princes Road, CHELMSFORD, CM2 9DE



Inspection date	14 February 2017
Previous inspection date	17 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Leadership is inspirational. Leaders are continually striving to improve the quality of the service they deliver to children and their parents. They have made extensive improvements to the nursery since their last inspection.
- Rigorous procedures for recruiting new staff, regular staff training and monitoring of staff performance lead to a high level of quality in teaching and staff involvement.
- Staff build extremely successful partnerships with parents. They ensure that parents are fully involved in their children's learning at home and in the nursery. Parents' requests for changes or improvements to nursery policy and practice are fully discussed and frequently implemented.
- Staff provide a superb range of high-quality experiences for children that strengthens their enthusiasm for learning in all areas. The exceptional outdoor learning environment provides children with a wealth of opportunities to stimulate their curiosity and imagination.
- Children are exceedingly confident learners. They form exceptionally strong attachments to their key persons and other staff. This develops their feeling of security and well-being and they feel safe and settle well.
- Staff thoroughly monitor individual children's progress and quickly identify any gaps in their learning. Staff work particularly closely in partnership with other professionals to establish early support to ensure that all children achieve their true potential.
- Managers and staff constantly evaluate their practice and provision and set themselves challenging targets to achieve continuous improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue the excellent monitoring of different groups of children to further support the ongoing in-depth analysis of the impact of the teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the directors and managers and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, suitability and qualifications of staff, children's records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders, managers and staff are highly committed to delivering an exceptional standard of learning for children. All managers and staff are exceedingly ambitious and have extremely high expectations of all children. Children make exceptional progress in their learning from the beginning of their time in the nursery. Staff work extremely well together as a team. They are well qualified and use the skills they have gained exceptionally well to deliver high-quality teaching. All staff observe and reflect on each other's practice and this has a positive impact on the consistency of teaching throughout the nursery. Plans are in place to enhance the monitoring of different groups of children to further identify any gaps in teaching practice. Staff develop close links with parents and other settings that children attend to ensure children's individual needs are consistently met. Safeguarding is effective. All staff fully understand their responsibilities to protect the children in their care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

All children make exceptional progress. Staff provide exciting opportunities for them to explore and investigate and they develop a strong desire for knowledge. Staff make excellent use of natural resources to stimulate children's imagination. For example, children explore the properties of damp soil and pretend they are weighing ingredients for cooking. They learn about heavy and light and how to balance the scales. Staff support children to solve problems together and they discuss whether they can fit large trays into a small oven. Staff skilfully extend children's learning and introduce new ideas. They use children's interests to provide motivation and plan for the next steps in their development. Staff continually assess children's learning and fully involve them in making decisions about their play. Children are excellent talkers and express themselves incredibly well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff teach children to be thoughtful, kind and considerate to others. They lead by example and children are exceptionally polite and caring. They offer help and support to their friends and express concern for each other. They help to set their own ground rules and this has an extremely positive effect on their behaviour. Children develop their physical skills well as they run around and climb on apparatus in the garden. They have excellent opportunities to learn about food and healthy eating. Children grow food produce, tending and picking fruit and vegetables and using them in cooking. The cook is innovative in her approach to meals and encourages children to try different foods. Children learn exceptional independence skills as they tidy up the table and wash up their own plates. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about the world. They learn about each other's cultures and to value each other's differences.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress in their learning. They are well prepared for school and they develop an interest in books and reading. They learn that words have a meaning and practise early writing skills. They enjoy cutting letters and numbers out of dough and learn to recognise colours and shapes. Children know how to look after themselves; they learn to wash themselves, clean their teeth and put on their coats and shoes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY365137
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1065071
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	1 - 10
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	119
Name of registered person	TKA Management Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903380
Date of previous inspection	17 September 2013
Telephone number	01245 345599

The Kids' Academy was registered in 2008. It is situated in Chelmsford, Essex. It operates from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The provider employs 11 members of childcare staff, seven of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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