# 1a Children's Centre

1a Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1R 4SR



Inspection date	13 March 2017
Previous inspection date	27 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

#### This provision is good

- Senior managers are committed to proving good quality care and education for children. They use a variety of methods, taking into account the views of parents, staff and children, to evaluate the nursery and make positive changes.
- Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn. They provide a wide range of interesting and challenging activities that promote children's development well.
- Staff warmly welcome children who easily approach them for reassurance during the day. Staff are kind and affectionate with the children. This helps children to feel safe and secure and ready to learn.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents. Parents speak highly of the staff team and the care and teaching they provide. They are kept well informed about their child's learning through daily discussions and regular reviews.
- Staff identify children who need additional support accurately and promptly. They work closely with other professionals, such as speech therapists, to ensure that all children make good progress relative to their starting points.

#### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of opportunities for children to express their own ideas or to help them learn to solve simple problems for themselves.
- Arrangements for the performance management of staff are not always focused on professional development to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

# What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that all staff provide opportunities to fully extend children's communication skills and vocabulary, and help them solve simple problems for themselves
- strengthen arrangements for the coaching and supervision of staff to focus more closely on raising the quality of teaching to the highest levels.

#### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector spoke to the manager, members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records and planning documentation. She checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and looked at policies and procedures.

#### **Inspector**

Vanessa Linehan

# **Inspection findings**

#### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of signs that a child may be at risk of harm and know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about their welfare. Managers have put in place robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. They address some staff training needs and ensure that their knowledge is kept up to date. Managers monitor the progress of individual children as well as groups of children and ensure that interventions are put in place to close any gaps in their learning. Managers use additional funding to benefit children so that they make good progress. For example, staff have undertaken forest school training to support children who may gain confidence from an outdoor learning environment.

#### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather information from parents in relation to their child's abilities and interests when they start at the nursery. They observe and assess children and plan activities which reflect their individual needs. Staff have a secure knowledge of how young children learn and overall use their good teaching skills to ensure that children become inquisitive learners. For example, children demonstrate their curiosity about the world when they are encouraged by staff to explore and observe what happens during an experiment with milk, food dye and washing up liquid.

#### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models and encourage children to play together cooperatively. They offer praise and encouragement to build children's self-esteem. Children's behaviour is good. Children learn to respect others and value differences, such as by celebrating festivals from other cultures and religions. Staff support children's understanding of safety, for example, by explaining why they need to be careful with glass jars and not run inside. Staff provide opportunities for daily exercise and fresh air as children have constant access to the outside play areas where they can enjoy playing in, for example, mud kitchens. Managers have established good relationships with local schools. Staff ensure that children leaving to go to school are emotionally prepared for change. For example, they prepare a transition pack for parents to use with their children.

#### **Outcomes for children are good**

Staff ensure that all children, including those with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points. Children develop the key skills they need for the next stage of their learning. Children show good independence skills, such as being able to help themselves to food and putting on their own coats. Children are active learners and confidently move around the nursery choosing what they want to play with and activities they wish to join.

## **Setting details**

**Unique reference number** EY351434

**Local authority** Camden **Inspection number** 1085871

**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 2 - 4

**Total number of places** 42

Number of children on roll 44

Name of registered person London Borough of Camden

Registered person unique

reference number

RP517467

**Date of previous inspection** 27 January 2015

**Telephone number** 0207 974 7038

The 1a Children's Centre was registered in 2007. It is based in the London Borough of Camden, The nursery is open each week day from 8am until 6pm, for 48 weeks of the year. There are 14 members of staff, 12 of whom hold early years qualifications. One member of staff holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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