

Blue Skies Nursery

194 Broadfields Avenue, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 8TF



Inspection date

15 March 2017

Previous inspection date

6 February 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 welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children benefit from a warm and nurturing learning environment. Staff give children reassurance and praise as they learn new skills. Children develop a good sense of belonging and behave well.
- Staff know how children learn and develop, and attend well to the needs of each child. Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are ready for the next stages in their learning, including starting school.
- Children enjoy visits to places of interest. Staff use these visits to enrich children's learning and to help them learn about the world around them. For example, children spoke about the exciting things they saw during their visit to a farm.
- Staff work well with other professionals to ensure that children receive the support they need from the right people.
- Managers plan activities with the staff team and check the quality of the provision to ensure that children receive consistently good quality care and teaching.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff do not consistently extend children's language and thinking skills to support children's learning further.
- Not all staff successfully encourage parents to fully contribute to their children's next steps in learning.

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 make the most of opportunities to extend children's language and thinking skills to increase their understanding even further
- find ways to fully involve parents in the next steps of their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all parts of the nursery, including the outdoor provision.
- The inspector spoke to some members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the management team.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed parents' written comments and suggestions.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and the nursery's policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Fatiha Maitland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider has thorough procedures in place to ensure safe recruitment of staff. All staff undergo suitability checks prior to them working with children to make sure they are suitable for the role. Staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding practices and follow the correct procedures to protect children. Managers provide effective leadership. For example, they support and supervise staff effectively and give them specific feedback to help them improve the quality of their practice. Managers and staff check the progress of individuals and groups of children so that they can easily spot any who are falling behind in their learning. Staff successfully provide well-targeted support to help close any gaps. Staff attend extra training to strengthen their skills. Managers take into account the views, comments and suggestions of staff, parents, children and others to improve their practice. They ensure that the nursery continues to provide a good service.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a range of activities that generally motivate children to learn. Children have good attitudes to learning and get on well with each other. Staff encourage children to sound out and write the initial letters of their names and those of others around them. They support children to expand their interest in writing for a purpose. For example, children write messages in their Mother's Day cards. Children create imaginative pictures and observe the changes that happen when coloured paints are mixed. They engage well in stories and use the language of books to share their ideas and findings. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's academic progress and well-being.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have strong bonds with staff and are confident to ask for help. Staff use positive and age-appropriate strategies to manage children's behaviour. Children learn to share resources fairly and take turns. They become increasingly independent. For example, children help themselves to healthy snacks and tidy up resources. Staff help children to be physically active. For instance, children confidently climb apparatus and manoeuvre bikes and scooters safely. Staff conduct regular and robust checks on the premises to keep children safe and secure. Through outings, children learn to cross roads safely.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and any gaps in learning are rapidly closing. Young children explore tools safely. Older children are confident to express their feelings and emotions freely. They are able to talk about the changes that happen to the weather around them. Children learn to recognise numerals and sort and match resources independently. Children show good levels of confidence at solving problems.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY395150
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	1085902
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	30
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Linda Olayinka
Registered person unique reference number	RP909593
Date of previous inspection	6 February 2015
Telephone number	07950598169

Blue Skies Nursery registered in 2010. It is situated in Edgware, in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm and operates during school term time only. The nursery receives funding to offer free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs seven members of staff, of whom five hold relevant early years qualification, ranging from levels 2 to level 5.

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