

Little Unicorn Day Nursery

Little Unicorn Day Nursery, 13 Columbus Courtyard, London, E14 4DA



Inspection date

5 July 2017

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 leaders, manager and staff implement efficient policies and procedures to support the safety and well-being of the children.
- Children play in a clean environment where they learn to follow good hygiene procedures.
- Staff make effective use of observation and assessments to plan for children's individual learning needs and help them to make good progress.
- Children help make up safety rules and positive behaviour strategies so that they can keep themselves safe, look after their environment and care for others.
- The manager offers staff regular supervision and training opportunities to support their professional development. In addition, senior leaders also observe staff to further improve the quality of teaching.
- Partnership with parents is good and supports continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times staff do not make the best use of opportunities to help children to think and express themselves, to help extend their communication and language skills further.
- Not all staff are consistent in encouraging children to do things for themselves so that they are fully prepared for the next stage in their development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for older children to think and express themselves
- make the best use of daily routines and opportunities to develop children's independence further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector went on a tour of the nursery with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, her line manager, the quality development manager, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector observed staff's interaction with the children and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including the children's assessment records, accident and risk assessment records, staff files and policies.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.

Inspector

Jennifer Liverpool

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The staff conduct daily risk assessments to reduce hazards to children. Also, the manager reviews the procedures for risk assessments after an accident to further minimise risks to children's safety. In addition, she makes sure the ratios are maintained to ensure children are carefully supervised throughout the day. The manager and staff have a good understanding of child protection matters. They know how to proceed if they have concerns about the welfare of a child or in the event an allegation is made about a member of staff. All staff hold current paediatric first-aid qualifications and can provide appropriate care if a child has an accident. All records, including the register of attendance and accident records, are in place and maintained as required. The leaders and manager have efficient recruitment and vetting procedures to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The leaders, manager and staff review the quality of the provision to improve the care and learning they provide for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Parents are encouraged to contribute to their child's initial assessment and staff use this information to plan for children's learning from the start. Staff plan purposeful activities based on their knowledge of children's interests, to help engage them in their play and motivate them to learn. Children have good opportunities to develop their mathematical skills. For example, they learn to recognise numbers, and use counting in everyday contexts and simple measurement. Young children are learning some number names and shapes. Staff encourage babies and young children to experiment and handle natural materials to help develop their exploratory play and sensory experiences. Overall, children's language and communication skills are developing well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, settled and have secure attachments with key persons and other staff who know them well. Children enjoy nutritious meals that meet with their requirements. Young babies sit unsupported, learn to crawl and move around to reach for toys. Staff provide daily opportunities for children to enjoy short walks in the fresh air and take part in exercise to support their physical skills. Staff are developing links with local schools to prepare children for their move to these.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in preparation for the next stage of their development and move to school. Children learn to write their own messages or stories using letters, symbols and marks. All children show interest in books and enjoy sharing these with others. Children show interest in people and other parts of the world. They learn about their own growth and change in comparison to other living things.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY543342
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	1101566
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 - 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	020 7513 0505

Little Unicorn Day Nursery registered in 2017. It is situated in Canary Wharf in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The providers employ 26 staff, 18 of whom hold early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6, and two have qualified teacher status and early years teacher status.

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