

The Rocking Horse Nursery

5 Victoria Avenue, Finchley, London, N3 1BD



Inspection date

9 August 2017

Previous inspection date

21 May 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

- The manager is inspirational. She is uncompromising in her dedication to add to the excellent teaching skills of staff and their ability to provide the highest-quality learning experiences for children.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Parents receive exceptional support and have excellent ongoing involvement in their children's learning and development. This supports them in contributing fully to the best possible outcomes for their children.
- Meticulous observation and assessment of children helps staff to quickly identify children who may require additional support. Highly effective plans to support them are implemented immediately. All children are supported in developing exceptionally well in all areas.
- Staff offer superb support for all children to participate fully in every learning opportunity and create a highly inclusive environment. Children feel valued, have excellent social skills and are emotionally secure.
- The staff make excellent use of their impressive qualifications, experience and skills. They have an excellent understanding of children's learning and development. Staff tailor their teaching very successfully to follow children's immediate interests. Children gain confidence, are delighted and excited by their own learning, and make exceptional progress from their different starting points.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on opportunities for children to experiment and solve problems to help them make even better progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a variety of activities, including outdoor play.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector talked to staff, parents and children to gather their views.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies, children's records, documents relating to the suitability of staff, and the self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Ceri Callf

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have excellent knowledge of the signs and symptoms which may cause concerns about a child's welfare and fully understand the procedures to follow. Staff have completed relevant training and know how to identify any children who may be at risk of being exposed to extreme ideas or behaviours. The manager and staff work very effectively with other professionals, when necessary, to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities at the highest level. The manager and staff implement highly effective procedures which specifically focus on keeping children safe. Parents are overwhelmingly supportive of the nursery and the manager has developed innovative methods to support their needs. For example, parents and staff have created a recipe book so meals eaten at nursery can be made at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly skilled at supporting the developmental needs of each age range, using high-quality resources and innovative teaching. For example, older children excitedly use real vegetables to create 'soup' in their role-play area and babies express their delight as they 'swim' across the room with staff. Currently, staff are developing ways to support children's problem-solving skills even further. Children's views are actively sought, and their ideas highly valued and suggestions used by staff. For example, children reorganised their classrooms to their own design. Their emotional well-being is expertly nurtured and they are fully involved in their own learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well behaved and attentive to the needs of others. For example, they offer a range of tools to one another and support their decision making. At lunch children help themselves, carefully ensure the next child can reach the bowl containing the food and wait for all children on their table to have food before eating. Children are extremely confident in their own self-care and inform staff they are going to wash their hands before lunch. Children's physical development is expertly nurtured. There are excellent links with local schools and children have exciting opportunities to learn about what it will be like to go to school.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are motivated learners. For example, they use their emerging writing to create their own 'register' and make sure all their friends are in the room. They bake biscuits and jump with excitement as they recall the ingredients they used. They are confident in their own abilities and derive huge satisfaction from their activities. For example, they make their own play-dough figures which they describe as 'lovely'. Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366697
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	1062124
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	119
Name of registered person	The Rocking Horse Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP527552
Date of previous inspection	21 May 2013
Telephone number	0208 3463682

The Rocking Horse Nursery registered in May 2008. It is located in Finchley, in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery operates from 7.45am until 6.15pm for 50 weeks of the year. There are 33 members of staff. Of whom, one holds early years professional status, seven hold qualified teacher status and 16 hold relevant early years qualifications from level 2 to level 7. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged three and four years.

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