

Great Learners Montessori Nursery



The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Cross and St Michael, The Riding, London,
NW11 8HL

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| Inspection date | 11 August 2017 |
| Previous inspection date | 26 November 2014 |

| 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

- Staff offer a welcoming and nurturing environment, where children make friends and play together in harmony. Children confidently ask for help. Their behaviour is good.
- Managers and staff regularly check children's progress to identify any needing extra help. Staff provide good support to help children catch up. Children make good progress in relation to what they know when they start. They are well prepared for the next stages in their learning and development, including the move to school.
- Staff support children's understanding of cultural diversity effectively. For example, children learn multicultural songs and visit the local shops to buy foods that come from different countries.
- Staff work well with parents and keep them fully informed about their children's progress and well-being. Parents contribute well to their children's learning.
- Managers continually monitor and evaluate their practice to help ensure that children achieve well and reach their full potential.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not provide enough opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills.
- At times, staff do not organise movements between activities well enough to minimise interruption to some children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities to help children develop their early writing skills
- improve the organisation of the day to help children remain focused on their 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 uses robust recruitment and induction procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable for the role. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding requirements and know what to do if they have any welfare concerns. Managers observe staff regularly and give them constructive feedback to help them improve the quality of their practice. Staff attend regular training and keep up to date with new developments to extend their teaching skills. For example, following training they help children develop their speaking skills and give them the time they need to think to aid their learning. Managers act on the views and comments of staff, parents, children and others when evaluating their practice to identify strengths and target what needs improving.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff collate information from parents about their children's learning. They use such information, along with their ongoing observations, to plan interesting activities to meet the needs of each child successfully. Children are well motivated to join in and relate well to each other. Staff encourage children's creativity well. For example, children use construction tools to create their favourite models and talk about how they can improve them. They enjoy music, clap hands and dance well to rhythm. Staff provide many experiences for children to learn about the natural world. For example, children explore a range of fresh fruits and vegetables and make good comments on their colour, taste and texture. Staff introduce children to stories. Children use the language of books well, to talk about their favourite characters and events.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models for children. For example, they help children learn right from wrong and consistently promote positive behaviour. Children learn to share resources fairly, take turns and consider the views of others well. Staff help children adopt healthy attitudes. For instance, children learn that milk and fruits have goodness to help them grow and develop. They enjoy outdoor play and socialise well with others. For instance, older children use walking stilts and balance well. Staff undertake regular checks on outings, the premises and resources to ensure children remain safe and secure.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and any gaps in learning are closing quickly. Young children learn to explore the sounds that musical instruments make. Children listen attentively and respond well to instructions. They roll, pat, flatten and cut play dough into different shapes. Older children know letters and sounds and are beginning to make words. They count, order objects by size, recognise numerals and confidently solve problems. Children care for living things. For example, they know that plants need water and sun to grow.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY360232 |
| Local authority | Barnet |
| Inspection number | 1070907 |
| 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 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 63 |
| Number of children on roll | 36 |
| Name of registered person | Budding Learners Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP902622 |
| Date of previous inspection | 26 November 2014 |
| Telephone number | 020 84558511 |

Great Learners Montessori Nursery registered in 2007. It is situated in Golders Green, in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm and operates all year. The provider receives funding to offer free early education for three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 13 members of staff. Of these, 10 hold relevant early years qualifications, ranging from level 3 to level 4. The nursery follows the Montessori educational philosophy.

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