

The Blackheath Day Nursery

The Rectory Field, Charlton Road, Blackheath, London, SE3 8SR



Inspection date	29 August 2017
Previous inspection date	3 September 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

- Leaders are very committed to evaluating their setting and making improvements. They seek the views of parents, staff and children well and use information gathered from monitoring progress to effectively identify gaps in their service.
- Staff have a warm and caring nature towards babies and children. All children form strong bonds with them. Staff have developed strong procedures for settling new children which helps them to feel happy, content and ready to learn and explore.
- Children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those learning English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points and gain new skills in preparation for their move on to school. Staff work well with other professionals to offer a consistent approach to children's learning.
- Staff are skilled at providing a wide range of activities which represents all areas of learning. Staff know children very well and plan activities which follow their interests. For example, children are interested in school, so staff have provided school role play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently question children skilfully to support them to express their thoughts and feelings and develop their communication skills.
- Children do not have opportunities to learn about nature in the outside environment which does not support them to learn about the natural world around them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop staff understanding of questioning techniques to encourage children to express their thoughts and ideas
- extend the range of experiences for children to learn about nature in the outside environment to support their understanding of the natural world around them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and observed the quality of teaching and interactions with children.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector took account the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff and children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of staff suitability to work with children.
- The inspector observed and interacted with the children in the inside and outside environment.

Inspector

Kayleigh Fletcher

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has good understanding of her responsibilities to keep children safe. For example, leaders monitor accidents to identify any area or equipment which could indicate a hazard. Safeguarding is effective. The manager supports staff to gain additional qualifications to better understand how children learn. Staff benefit from in-house training programmes. For example, staff receive quizzes to help ensure their knowledge of procedures is correct. The manager has developed effective recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. She monitors staff performance through effective systems of supervisions to ensure that staff are meeting expectations and having a positive impact on children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children well to understand aspects of the world around them and be respectful of different cultures and languages. For example, children enjoy learning about festivals with cultural food tasting and dressing up in traditional clothes. Staff form strong relationships with parents and involve them in their child's learning well. For example, parents come into the setting to deliver healthy eating workshops and conduct science experiments. Staff value parents' input and communicate effectively with them. For example, staff gain information from parents to form children's starting points. They effectively assess children's progress over time and analyse data skilfully to identify gaps in children's learning. Staff offer positive, nurturing interactions with children of all ages. Staff skilfully communicate with children and demonstrate new and varied vocabulary for children to learn. Children enjoy a variety of songs and stories which staff read with imagination and the use of different voices.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's emotional well-being well. For example, children benefit from trial visits and key people conduct handovers when children move between rooms. Children behave well and staff help them to understand right from wrong. Staff encourage children to develop independence from the earliest age. For example, young children try to clean their faces and older children serve their own lunches. Staff work alongside parents when toilet training and develop cohesive ways to start the process. Staff cater to children's specific needs well, such as dietary requirements, to keep them safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are confident and motivated learners. They develop key skills in early literacy and mark making in preparation for the move on to school. Children understand how to share and be kind to each other and learn to recall information which supports their development for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY361480
Local authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	1070914
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	108
Name of registered person	Bridge Lane Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP526655
Date of previous inspection	3 September 2014
Telephone number	0208 3052526

The Blackheath Day Nursery registered under the current provider in 2007. The nursery is open for 51 weeks a year, on Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm. There are currently 108 children on roll and the nursery receives funding for free early education for children aged three and four years. The nursery employs 35 members of staff, 28 of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 2 and above.

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