

Smarty Pants @ Abbey Lane Children's Centre



Abbey Lane Children's Centre, Abbey Lane, Stratford, E15 2RY

Inspection date	30 August 2017
Previous inspection date	14 January 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 nursery owners rigorously monitor the quality of teaching and learning. They provide high levels of supervision and training, to further enhance the skills of the well-qualified staff team. For example, staff have made effective use of training to support children's language and communication skills even more effectively.
- Partnerships with parents are highly successful. Parents comment on the excellent support they receive from the owners and staff. They value the advice they receive to develop their parenting skills and the ideas provided to extend their children's learning at home.
- Children develop a strong sense of belonging within this outstanding setting. For example, babies happily snuggle on their key person's lap for a story and older children help staff to plan and set out daily activities. As a result, they become extremely confident and settled. They freely initiate activities, suggest ideas and take the lead in their own learning.
- Staff provide rich and imaginative activities which enthuse and motivate children to learn. For example, staff built on the children's understanding of a favourite story, taking them on a 'bear hunt' around the garden. They encouraged them to explore the natural environment, as they recalled and sequenced events from the book.
- Children, including those who have special educational needs, those who speak English as an additional language, and those for whom the provider receives additional funding, make excellent progress from their various starting points. Where there are gaps in children's learning, managers and staff work extremely effectively with parents and other professionals, so that these close rapidly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the excellent opportunities for helping children to learn through exploratory play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the quality of teaching and its impact on children's learning.
- The inspector had a meeting with the owners, one of whom manages the nursery. She also explored the views of staff and children at intervals during the inspection.
- The inspector had discussions with several parents and considered their views, alongside sampling parents' written feedback.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including policies and procedures, staff suitability checks and children's learning records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The nursery owners are highly successful in their drive to provide the best possible service for children and parents. They pay close attention to the views of the children, parents and staff. They have a clear idea of where they can make further improvements to the inspirational learning environment. For example, staff are currently developing an area solely for sensory play and exploration, to further enhance excellent learning outcomes for babies, and children who have special educational needs. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a thorough understanding of how to keep children safe. They know how to treat minor injuries and keep accurate records of these, which are routinely shared with parents. The owners use robust recruitment procedures, to help ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. Risk assessments are used effectively to help keep children safe and secure in the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff closely observe and monitor each child's progress to identify what they need to learn next. They are highly responsive to children's comments and suggestions, and ensure that the experiences they plan are firmly based on children's current interests. They make innovative use of materials to capture children's interests and extend their learning. For example, as well as wooden blocks, they include a variety of other materials in their construction area. This helps children to build using a wide range of interesting and unusual shapes, to enhance their designing and making skills. Staff are highly effective in developing children's love of books. For example, they make story time for toddlers an exciting experience. They use toys and props as one way of capturing children's interest, to enhance their understanding of what is happening in the story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop high levels of confidence and independence in managing their personal needs. For example, even the youngest children take part in handwashing routines. Older children decide when and if they wish to have a drink or a snack and help staff to peel and cut their fruit. Staff support children's enjoyment of healthy lifestyles extremely well. For example, children have great fun playing a range of lively and energetic games in the large and well-resourced garden. Staff provide suitable clothing and footwear, to ensure that children can play outdoors, whatever the weather. Children's behaviour is excellent. They are kind and helpful and think about each other's needs.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at nursery and make excellent progress. They are very well prepared for the next stages in their development, including being ready to start school. Children used imaginative and descriptive words such as 'pointy', 'long' and 'straight', to talk about the models they were building and to demonstrate their awareness of mathematical language and the properties of shapes. Older children begin to link letters to the sounds that they represent. They develop excellent writing skills and enjoy practising these through meaningful activities, such as creating labels for displays.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382324
Local authority	Newham
Inspection number	1062221
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	70
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Jase Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP519294
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2013
Telephone number	02033733577 or 02085559442

Smarty Pants @ Abbey Lane Children's Centre registered in 2008. It is in the London Borough of Newham. The nursery is open every weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks' of the year. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 12 members of staff, all of whom are suitably qualified. Two members of staff hold early years professional status, while the rest are qualified at level 3.

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