

Horizons Day Nursery & Pre-school

165 Hither Green Lane, Lewisham, London, SE13 6QF



Inspection date

20 October 2017

Previous inspection date

18 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Leadership and management are exemplary. The manager has a deep understanding of the early years foundation stage and shares her knowledge and skills effectively with staff and parents. New and existing staff are very effectively supported to improve their teaching practice, and parents are equipped and encouraged to continue their children's learning at home.
- Staff support children extremely well to help them settle in, for instance, when they start at the nursery or when they return after holiday. They take account of children's home backgrounds and experiences while planning for individual children and they support their emotional needs extremely well.
- Staff skilfully challenge children in their learning and they continually motivate them to explore and experiment. For example, they encourage children to estimate how many scoops of water they might need to fill the bottle. Children say they need 'two scoops' and test out their ideas by filling the bottle. Children are prepared extremely well for future learning.
- Staff offer excellent praise to help support children's positive behaviour and they help children consistently to understand what is expected of them. Children are very confident. They develop extremely positive self-esteem and build friendly relationships. Parents speak highly of how well staff support children to learn to manage their feelings and to build positive relationships with others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to fully extend the already excellent opportunities for children to build on their self-help skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and how staff interacted with them.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documents including children's learning records.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and assessed the arrangements for monitoring staff performance.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, staff and children.

Inspector

Geetha Ramesh

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager establishes excellent partnerships with local schools and with parents to ensure a smooth transfer for older children. She monitors children's progress accurately and closely supports staff to help them target and address gaps in children's learning. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are very confident about the procedures to follow should they have concerns for children's welfare. The manager is extremely proactive and takes prompt action to minimise risks to children's safety, including ensuring the security of the premises. Staff complete thorough risk assessments to help ensure children's safety at the nursery and on outings, such as when they visit the pet shop. There are appropriate arrangements to deal with complaints. The manager reviews practice rigorously. For instance, she has carefully planned further positive changes to the outside area, including improvements to the physical environment and the provision for babies.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide exceptionally interesting opportunities for children to explore different materials. For example, children splash water with their boots and they excitedly explore making 'boot prints'. Staff support children extremely well to build on their understanding of the world. For example, they hide objects in shredded paper and encourage babies to find them. Children learn that objects continue to exist when hidden. Staff offer excellent opportunities for children to care for living things. Children take the pet hamster home with them and share their experiences with their families. Staff motivate children extremely well to help them build on their physical skills and learn to take appropriate risk. For example, toddlers learn to walk on planks and jump off safely. Staff use their in-depth knowledge and skills extremely well to plan precisely for individual children's needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff deployment is highly responsive to children's needs. For example, the manager sensitively reviews key-person arrangements taking account of children's preferences and responses. Children are extremely happy and thoroughly enjoy their learning experiences. For example, they squeal with excitement as they blow and chase bubbles in the garden. The manager ensures that there are adequate staff to supervise children effectively at all times. She ensures they are suitable for their roles. The staff and the cook work closely as a team to provide healthy meals for children and to meet children's dietary needs effectively. Children continually build on their self-help skills, although staff miss opportunities to fully extend them further on some occasions, such as snack times.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Babies explore curiously and observe the effect of their actions, for instance, as they make movements with their legs in the 'ball pool'. Older children display an excellent understanding of the context of stories. For instance, they say 'tip toe' in a soft voice to describe what the characters are doing. All groups of children, including those who learn English as an additional language, make excellent progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	129012
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	1115635
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 - 5
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Horizons Day Nursery & Pre-school Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP909919
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2015
Telephone number	0208 318 4125

Horizons Day Nursery and Pre-school registered in 2000. It is located in Hither Green in the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, for 49 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 10 staff, seven of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications. The manager holds early years professional status. The provider receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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