

The Little House Nursery

Napier Hall, 1 Hide Place, London, SW1P 4NJ



Inspection date	27 October 2017
Previous inspection date	9 August 2013

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

- Overall, managers at the nursery monitor staff well and support their continuing professional development. Recent training on observing children has helped staff to plan better to meet children's next steps in development. Staff enjoy working at the nursery and most have worked there for many years.
- Staff have strong partnerships with parents. They share information about what children achieve well and offer suggestions for how parents can help children learn at home. Children benefit from consistent experiences at home and in the nursery.
- Staff support children's communication skills well. For example, they learn words in children's home languages, and use pictures and signs to reinforce children's understanding. All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, are articulate and confident in talking.
- Staff form secure attachments with children from the start and monitor their progress well. They identify when children may need extra support and help close any gaps in development quickly. All children make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not provide children with clear and consistent messages to increase their understanding about what is expected of them.
- At times, some children do not become fully involved during daily routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make sure staff give children clear and consistent messages so that children know what is expected of them
- review the organisation of daily routines to encourage all children to take part in them and take more responsibility for caring for their environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke with the deputy manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at samples of paperwork, including policies and procedures, the setting's evaluations and children's records.

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers reflect well on the nursery and seek feedback from parents and children to help them make changes. For instance, they introduced new rhymes and toys into the toddler room as parents told them about children's new interests. Other changes have included contacting local schools and organising for information to be shared with parents, to better support children's move to school. In addition, the deputy manager is seeking to arrange visits from the Reception teachers to let the children meet them. Staff receive regular training about how to keep children safe. They all understand what to do if they have concerns about the welfare of a child and how to act in emergencies. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage babies' curiosity effectively, for example, as babies eagerly explore the blocks. Staff support early mathematical skills well from a young age, such as counting as they put the blocks on top of each other, and reach five, before the babies excitedly knock the tower down. Children use their imagination well. For instance, younger children make a bed with a cushion for the baby doll, put a cover over her and use their finger to tell others 'shush'. Toddlers decide where the tables need to go in the doll's house, and put the figures to bed before shutting the door. Staff support children to share ideas and listen well. For example, older children eagerly wait for their turn to explain how they are going to dress up, as sparkly witches with ballet shoes, spooky ghosts or a huge orange pumpkin.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from regular fresh air and exercise, and they enjoy being physically active. Staff remind them to walk indoors to help keep themselves and others safe. Older children use knives and forks competently to eat their lunch. Staff praise their efforts at cutting up the food, boosting children's level of confidence and self-esteem. Staff teach children to stay safe when out on walks. For example, they remind children to stop at the kerb near the road, then to look both ways for cars and only cross when the road is clear.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. Older children excitedly decide which colour they want their pictures on the electronic whiteboards to be, pressing the button to select green, blue or pink. Babies enthusiastically join in with rhymes using props. They eagerly reach out for the toy ducks, hold animal masks to their faces and make the sounds of the farm animals in the song. Toddlers enjoy a walk around the local square. They point excitedly to the tractor cutting the grass, exclaim at an aeroplane and try to reach the red balloon that has got stuck behind the fence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY320354
Local authority	Westminster
Inspection number	1061967
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 - 8
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	Colin Shaw
Registered person unique reference number	RP905694
Date of previous inspection	9 August 2013
Telephone number	02033021240

The Little House Nursery was originally founded in 1998 and re-registered in its present form in 2006. It operates from a building in the city of Westminster. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery follows the Montessori education principles. The nursery employ 25 staff who work directly with the children, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 2 or above. Of these, six staff hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 5 and five staff hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 4.

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