

Newstead Road Pre-School



Newstead Road Pre-School, Compton House, 6 Birch Grove, LONDON, SE12 0SU

Inspection date	30 October 2017
Previous inspection date	15 January 2014

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

- Leaders have extremely high aspirations for the pre-school. The chair of trustees is particularly instrumental in addressing weaknesses and planning rigorously for future improvement. For example, attending recent training in areas including leadership and the role of trustees has had an extremely positive impact on the pace of improvement.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Parents are extremely positive about the pre-school's electronic tool to capture details of children's learning and they value being kept up to date. Parents are successfully engaged in observing their children's learning online and welcome opportunities to add their own contributions.
- Staff are highly skilled in their interactions with children. Staff know exactly where children need support and skilfully extend children's learning in their self-chosen play.
- Leaders rigorously monitor children's progress and are highly alert to any individual or groups of children at risk of falling behind. Highly effective programmes of support help children to catch up. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make excellent progress from their starting points.
- Settling-in processes are highly effective. Staff are very sensitive to children's emotional needs and adapt routines accordingly. They remain close by to offer reassurance and quickly acknowledge children's personal efforts and achievements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore additional ways to work with schools to make children's move to school as smooth as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and considered their views about the pre-school.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of activities with the chair of trustees.
- The inspector observed a range of activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and looked at a sample of documentation.

Inspector

Jenny Griffiths

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff are extremely alert to any safeguarding and welfare concerns and leaders work very effectively with partner agencies to address any concerns. Safeguarding is effective. Robust appraisals and one-to-one supervisory meetings are sharply focused on improving outcomes for children. Strengths and weaknesses in practice are thoughtfully assessed and steps are taken to successfully improve practice. There is a very strong commitment to training and staff development. Staff work extremely effectively with other professionals, particularly in supporting the progress of children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff develop successful ways to support and engage any children at risk of falling behind. Staff engage with parents and carers exceptionally well and respond sensitively to any concerns noted.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Highly skilled staff maximise opportunities to support and extend children's learning. Staff introduce mathematical vocabulary during activities, such as counting scoops with children as they cook outdoors. Staff skilfully teach children to solve problems. For example, they help children to test whether their pretend candles will stand up in the dough by wrapping tape around them. Staff foster children's interest in making marks and drawing extremely well. Children learning English as an additional language are particularly well supported and staff actively promote the use of home languages. Children make excellent progress from their starting points. Managers expertly assess and monitor children's progress and plan successfully to close any learning gaps. Staff regularly initiate contact with schools to foster transition arrangements. There are plans to engage schools in a more two-way process to further strengthen these arrangements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff make use of every opportunity to teach children about keeping healthy and safe. Children enjoy exercising vigorously during the music session. They enjoy learning to move in different ways, such as galloping, jiggling and twirling. Children practise very good hygiene skills as they wash their hands thoroughly with soap and put their rubbish in the bin at lunchtime. Children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff are extremely alert to any changes in behaviour and work closely with parents and professionals to address any concerns. Staff are highly sensitive to the emotional needs and development of individual children and adapt activities accordingly. Children learn to respect different languages that are spoken and immensely enjoy being involved in story times spoken in Italian.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children are highly motivated and eager to have a go at their activities. Children engage for long periods and enjoy testing out their ideas. They are sociable and very confident communicators. Older children develop their mathematical thinking and early writing skills and younger children make secure attachments and develop their independence and self-help skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	129103
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	1068466
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Newstead Road Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907806
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2014
Telephone number	0208 857 9500

Newstead Road Pre-School registered in 1995 and is situated in the London Borough of Lewisham. The pre-school is open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 4pm and on Friday from 9am to 12.45pm. Seven staff work directly with the children. The manager holds a qualification at level 5 and the deputy holds a qualification at level 6. Of the remaining staff, five are qualified at level 2 or level 3. The pre-school is in receipt for funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

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