

Cricket Nursery

Lower Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 0DE



Inspection date	16 October 2017
Previous inspection date	20 April 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team has worked very hard to raise the quality of the provision since the last inspection. They have successfully addressed the weaknesses identified in relation to meeting the welfare requirements and have enhanced other aspects of their practice, including teaching.
- The provider and manager are inspirational teachers. They provide a rich, exciting learning environment where children are highly stimulated. Children make extremely good progress in their learning and development.
- Children are very eager to take part in a broad range of learning experiences. The provider and manager use their expert knowledge to plan highly challenging activities, which are thoughtfully linked to children's interests and next steps for learning.
- Children behave well in the setting. They are emotionally secure and learn good social skills. Children learn to listen, take turns and share.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents receive regular information about their child's care and learning. They receive very good support to extend their children's learning at home .

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the quality of teaching is consistently of a very high standard, the arrangements for performance management are in their infancy. More work is needed to ensure that leaders complete incisive evaluations of staff practice in order to drive continual improvement in all areas of the nursery's work .
- Staff do not consistently support children to understand the importance of drinking water during or after physical exercise to increase their awareness of how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

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 systems for assessing staff performance and focus sharply on identifying areas for continuous improvement
- strengthen opportunities for children to understand about the health benefits of taking regular drinks of water during and after physical exercise.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spent the majority of time observing children in the nursery and outdoor area.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's records and staff suitability checks.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, manager and staff.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views on the nursery.

Inspector

Jennifer Devine

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have completed child protection training. They know what procedures to follow should they have concerns about children's welfare or if an allegation was made against a member of staff. Robust recruitment procedures are in place. This helps to identify staff suitability and their competency in their role. Staff regularly check the environment for risks and take incisive action to reduce the possibility of harm to children. For example, they rigorously check the shared outdoor area before using it to ensure it remains safe. The manager carefully monitors the progress of all children who attend the nursery. This helps her to identify gaps in children's learning and seek intervention if needed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The provider and manager know precisely what to do to enrich children's learning. The highly effective teaching and excellent range of stimulating activities help to challenge children. There is an extremely strong focus on supporting children to investigate, explore and experiment in their play. For example, children have been introduced to magnifiers and magnets and use this equipment confidently, continually developing their understanding of how they work. Staff support children's communication and language development superbly. For example, they are skilled at introducing vocabulary and ask questions to make children think further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well and form positive relationships with the staff. Children arrive happily and are eager to explore the activities. Staff are positive role models, they join in children's play, show them how to use equipment and develop their learning by offering ideas. Children follow good hygiene routines and have plenty of opportunities to experience fresh air and physical play in the outdoor environment. Staff teach children well to respect each others differences and value diversity. They offer interesting resources. For example, staff presented some Diwali artefacts, allowing children to initially explore these and then moved on to learning more about this celebration.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points and quickly obtain the skills they need to prepare them well for the next stage in learning. Children with English as an additional language make remarkable progress. Children develop an excellent sense of responsibility and high levels of independence. For example, they take responsibility for tidying and sweeping the floor and confidently use small child-sized knives to cut fruit at snack time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY235738
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1112544
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	The Cricket Montessori School Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908109
Date of previous inspection	20 April 2017
Telephone number	020 8423 5544

Cricket Nursery registered in 1999 and has been under new ownership since 2016. It is located in the London Borough of Harrow. The nursery opens weekdays, from 9.30am until 3.15pm, during school terms only. The provider currently employs a manager and secretary and she also works in the setting. Further staff will be employed as the numbers of children increase.

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