Ministars Day Nursery

125 Leigham Court Road, London, SW16 2NX



Inspection date	11 January 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff plan meticulously to meet the needs of children exceptionally well. They pinpoint accurately what children need to learn next from regular, thorough observations. Staff use these next steps to provide highly challenging activities for children to help them make excellent progress.
- Staff support children's creative development very successfully. For example, they provide children with a very wide variety of raw, flexible materials, such as cardboard boxes and interesting containers, which fires their imagination as they play. There is a dedicated well-resourced area for children to explore a huge range of natural materials to enable them to create their own artwork.
- Staff manage children's behaviour using a range of highly effective strategies. For example, they monitor children's behaviour closely if there is a concern to find if there are specific trigger points and then work together to find a solution. Children are fully involved in setting the nursery rules. Children behave exceptionally well.
- The nursery has excellent relationships with other early years organisations and parents. For instance, the local primary school runs parenting classes to which parents of the nursery are invited. Staff provide a variety of highly effective ways to keep parents very well informed of their children's progress.
- The Leadership Team has an astute awareness of the nursery's strengths and weaknesses and has set highly relevant goals to build ongoing improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

continue to enhance the already excellent outdoor area to provide even more challenges for children across all areas of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the Leadership Team of a group activity.
- The inspector observed the interaction between the staff and children, and spoke with children when appropriate.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector looked at some documentation and held a discussion with the Leadership Team.
- The inspector spoke to parents and staff and considered their views.

Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff have a very vigilant attitude towards children's safety. Risk assessments are robust to help ensure accidents are minimised. The Leadership Team carry out very thorough background checks on staff as part of the recruitment procedure. Part of this diligent approach to safety involves attendance on a 'Safer Recruitment' course which has led to more-thorough processes being implemented. Monitoring of children's learning is very robust. The Leadership Team checks all planning and assessment to identify if there are any gaps and to ensure that additional help is provided to children as needed. Staff receive excellent support. The Leadership Team meets each staff member individually and thoroughly reviews their work and support needs. Comprehensive annual checks accurately identify their training needs. Staff have attended an extensive range of courses, including a course on supporting children who have special educational needs (SEN) which has led to much greater support for children in this area.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff ensure that children are completely focused and engaged in activities. They plan an interesting and innovative range of activities based on each child's individual interests. Staff support children's early literacy skills exceptionally well. For instance, they ensure that children always have ready access to a wide range of mark-marking materials to make 'lists', take 'orders' and write 'menus' in their pretend play. Children have excellent letter-sound knowledge and many can recognise and write their own names. The outdoor area is spacious and provides ample and well-thought-out opportunities for children to practise and build on their already excellent physical skills. The Leadership Team recognise that this could be developed even further to cover different areas of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely confident and very well motivated to learn. Staff help children to feel highly valued and to settle extremely well. For instance, they carry out home visits before children start at the nursery to help build close relationships with children and their families. Children are highly independent. For instance, they collect their own crockery and cutlery, serve themselves and pour their own drinks at lunchtime. They learn about healthy eating and enjoy very well-balanced meals.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make rapid progress from their starting points. They have exceptional counting and sorting skills, and excellent knowledge of shape names. They treat each other with a high degree of respect, saying 'please' and 'thank you' appropriately. Children operate educational programs on the computer independently. They use the mouse and program functions very skilfully. Children learn excellent skills for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY552343

Local authority Lambeth

Inspection number 1112881

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register

Age range of children 1 - 4

Total number of places 36

Number of children on roll 44

Name of registered person Mini Stars Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP901353

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable

Telephone number 0208 6788600

Mini Stars Day Nursery opened in 2004 and is based in Streatham Hill in the London Borough of Lambeth. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year, closing for public bank holidays and one week at Christmas and one week in August. The nursery employs 10 members of staff, including the manager, eight of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes one staff member who holds early years professional status, one member of staff who holds a degree in early years and six staff who hold level 3 qualifications in early years.

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