

Alpha Nurseries

3 Darnley Road, LONDON, E9 6QH



Inspection date	15 February 2018
Previous inspection date	29 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

- The provider, manager and staff are passionate about providing good-quality early years provision. They work very well together as a team and demonstrate strong practice. This helps to provide a welcoming and happy atmosphere at the nursery.
- Staff make good use of the outdoor environment to provide children with a rich and varied range of learning experiences. This helps to support those children who prefer to learn outdoors.
- Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment. Children are emotionally well supported by the caring and attentive staff, who help them to form strong attachments. Staff are good role models and offer children lots of praise.
- Staff successfully build on children's interests. They provide exciting, real-life experiences for them to extend their knowledge of the world. For example, children enjoy trips to the supermarket, library, science museum and airport.
- The manager makes good use of self-evaluation to accurately identify the strengths and areas for development within the nursery. She works well with all staff to make ongoing improvements to maintain good standards.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring of staff's practice is not fully focused on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level across the nursery.
- The effective systems for working in partnership with parents do not fully include information about how they can help support their child's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the monitoring of staff's practice to help identify and build on staff's teaching skills, to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- strengthen existing good partnerships with parents and provide them with information about how they can support their children's learning at home so that children make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Children benefit from a safe, well-organised learning environment. Staff give high priority to their safety and well-being and supervise them closely at all times. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider, manager and staff have a good understanding of current safeguarding legislation and the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures, including ongoing suitability checks, ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff complete accurate assessments to identify any gaps in children's learning and target support where this is needed. Staff develop good partnerships with other settings, schools and the local authority. Parents are very complimentary about the care and learning that their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children demonstrate that they are happy, confident learners. The learning environment is very well resourced, indoors and outside. This contributes significantly to children's all-round learning and development. Staff have a good knowledge of their key children. They use their observations and assessments to help plan for each individual child's next steps in learning. Sensory materials and resources are used imaginatively so that young children can examine different textures and use their senses. Staff introduce new words to children to help promote their communication and language skills. Children who speak English as an additional language are particularly well supported. They make rapid progress in their understanding of English.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff greet children and their parents warmly when they arrive. Children form strong bonds with staff and settle quickly at the nursery. Staff offer parents a flexible settling-in procedure, including home visits. Children behave well and understand the daily routines and expectations. Staff promote children's good health effectively, such as providing nutritious meals and snacks. Children have daily opportunities to be active. They enjoy playing outside and going on walks in the local area. Staff help children develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, young children learn to carefully manage the stairs when they walk to the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy activities and join in enthusiastically. They make good progress in their learning and development from their starting points. Babies gain confidence in their physical skills. For example, they become confident walkers as they eagerly explore their environment and investigate the toys. Older children learn to count, write their names and learn the sounds that letters represent. They develop an understanding of the natural world around them, such as learning about the life cycle of the butterfly. Children have a lot of fun and take pleasure in their learning. They quickly gain the skills they need for their future learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY426093
Local authority	Hackney
Inspection number	1062463
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 - 4
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Alpha Nurseries & Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534810
Date of previous inspection	29 August 2013
Telephone number	02089852785

Alpha Nurseries registered in 2012. It is one of a chain of nurseries and out-of-school clubs owned by Alpha Nurseries & Childcare Limited. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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