

Little Learners

45 Whitchurch Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 6PF



Inspection date	28 March 2018
Previous inspection date	9 July 2015

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider and manager consistently work with parents and children to gather their views about the care and learning they provide. They use this information to continually target improvements to the service they provide and enhance safety both inside and outside the nursery.
- Children benefit from exceptional opportunities to learn about the wider world. For example, they regularly ride on buses, enjoy train rides, visit local museums and delight in exploring natural history.
- Parents contribute detailed information about what their children know and can do when they join the nursery. Staff use this information to carefully plan what children need to learn next. They effectively support parents in extending their children's learning at home. The continuity in their learning improves children's outcomes.
- Regular observations and accurate assessments of children's progress support staff in quickly identifying children who may need additional support. They put timely strategies in place to help them catch up. All children make good progress from their different starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not make the best of opportunities to extend children's learning as they play to build further on their good progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to recognise and develop all opportunities to extend learning as fully as possible so children make even better progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed different activities, including for outdoor learning, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies, children's records and documents relating to the suitability of staff. She discussed self-evaluation with the provider and manager.
- The inspector talked to staff, children and parents to gather their views.

Inspector

Ceri Callf

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that staff are confident in their understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, which may give cause for concern about a child's welfare. Staff have completed training updates about how to identify any children who may be at risk of exposure to extreme ideas or behaviours. The manager effectively encourages the professional development of staff, who say they feel well supported. Staff regularly take part in training and supervision, to continually develop their skills and knowledge.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's physical development well. Children jump, cycle, roll and kick balls. They learn about leading a healthy lifestyle and are confident in carrying simple acts of self-care and manageable tasks. For example, they lay and clear tables during lunch and spontaneously wash their hands after activities and before they eat. Staff provide stimulating activities which support children in becoming eager to learn, for example, as they care for young chicks and ducklings. Children make their own planets as they learn about the solar system and delightedly explore their early creativity while making models out of household packaging.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave exceptionally well. They have a deep understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, children talk about how to stay safe while out walking and understand how to obtain appropriate help in an emergency. These skills help prepare them for the next stages of their learning and further into their future lives. Children are hugely confident in managing their own risks, supported by the outstanding opportunities provided by staff. For instance, they climb in and out of a tower of tyres they have built, confidently risk assessing their own activity. Staff expertly nurture children's emotional well-being. Children thrive in the exceptionally warm and caring atmosphere created by the kind and gentle staff.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, self-motivated and independent learners. They are persistent and drive their own learning forward. They delight in each other's company, engage in animated discussions and support the learning of other children. They are sociable and keen to share their home lives and experiences with staff. Children excitedly use their developing mathematical skills, for instance, to count the number of frogs in their book at story time. They use their emerging literacy skills to independently explore a wide range of books and talk confidently about how the characters might feel. They are prepared well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293529
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1125034
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	13
Name of registered person	Budding Learners Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902622
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2015
Telephone number	0208 951 0407

Little Learners registered in 2004. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for 48 weeks of the year. There are four members of staff. Of these, two hold relevant qualifications in early years at level 4 and one holds qualified teacher status. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. The nursery follows the Montessori educational philosophy.

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