

Little Wild Nursery

Barn Elms Sports Trust, The London Marathon Pavilion, London, SW13 9SA



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

25 May 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
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

- Staff make detailed and precise plans, which cover areas of learning exceptionally well. They make excellent use of the natural outdoors as a learning environment. They ensure that robust assessments are routinely carried out and use these to ensure that children are highly challenged. Children make excellent progress.
- Staff highly prioritise children's safety. Staff have extensive risk assessments covering all aspects of being in an outdoor environment to keep children safe. For instance, they regularly and thoroughly check the forest for falling branches and poisonous plants, and have robust plans in place to rectify any issues very readily.
- The manager has astute insight into the nursery's strengths and weaknesses and has set highly relevant goals to build ongoing improvements.
- Staff use the natural environment exceptionally well to develop children's early mathematical skills. For instance, children compare their heights against cow parsley using mathematical language. They sort and group sticks in order of size to make a camp fire.
- Children have excellent levels of safety awareness. For instance, staff teach them how to trample on or beat down the brambles to prevent any rashes or stings. They remind each other of the dangers of climbing on wet or damp trees.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the already excellent partnerships with parents to further enhance support for children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity, with the manager.
- The inspector observed the interaction between children and staff, 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 parents.
- The inspector spoke with parents and staff and considered their views.

Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff have excellent relationships with parents. They have flexible, very effective ways to keep them well-informed of their children's progress. However, the manager is very keen to develop this further to enhance parent support in their child's learning. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have exceptional knowledge of what to look out for and procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager helps to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles by carrying out robust background checks as part of a comprehensive recruitment process. She is highly committed to the continued development of her staff team. For instance, staff have attended a very wide range of courses, including a course on supporting children who speak English as an additional language, which led to more effective practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff support children's understanding of the world in exceptional ways. For instance, children collect elderflower to make cordial, and look out for different types of larvae to identify various types of mini-beasts that live in the woods. Staff provide children with innovative and exciting creative opportunities. For example, children make paintbrushes from twigs, and make paint from mixing mud and water. They use clay to make bark prints on trees. Staff support children's early literacy skills exceptionally well. For example, children recognise their names when they arrive each morning. Children create elaborate stories using rich language during role-play games. Staff provide excellent opportunities for children to practise a broad range of physical skills, such as climbing and balancing on trees; they run freely and learn to throw, catch and kick objects.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive extremely well in this nursery. They have high levels of confidence and are exceptionally well-motivated to learn. Staff have strong, caring relationships with the children. They know them well and use their knowledge to meet their needs exceptionally well. Children gain exceptional independence skills. For example, they help to prepare fruit for snack time, dress themselves, and help to carry out supervised safety checks in the woods. Staff provide children with excellent daily routines, such as by being outdoors in the fresh air each day and lots of exciting physical challenges outdoors.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children behave in excellent ways. For instance, staff have agreed ground rules with children who remind each other of how to behave in positive ways. They share and take turns very well. Children use technology with confidence and excellent skill. For instance, they use amplifiers to record and to listen to bird song. Children learn very valuable skills to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497691
Local authority	Richmond upon Thames
Inspection number	1052554
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Wild Education
Registered person unique reference number	RP535131
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07837 746366

Little Wild Nursery registered in 2016 and is a forest school nursery, which operates from an outdoor area situated in Barnes, in the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames. There is access to suitable indoor shelter when adverse weather conditions occur. There are four members of staff, including the manager. Of these, two hold a degree in early years. Three staff have a diploma in Forest School training. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term times only. Sessions are from 9.30am until 1.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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