

Star Child Montessori Day Nursery

Wiltshire Road Hall, Wiltshire Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon CR7 7QN



Inspection date	15 November 2018
Previous inspection date	24 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The management team is ambitious and fully committed to ensuring there is continual improvement in practice at the setting. For example, a newly introduced electronic system to record and track children's progress is supporting the team to identify quickly and address gaps in learning effectively.
- The well-organised learning environment supports children of all ages to make choices confidently about where they would like to play.
- Staff have strong bonds with children. They know how to support their learning and successfully follow their interests. Toddlers are extremely motivated to explore the newly developed animal hospital role-play area. They play imaginatively and learn new words, such as 'thermometer' and 'temperature'.
- Babies are happy and settled. They form strong emotional attachments with their key person and seek support from adults in their self-chosen activities. For instance, they use all of their senses to explore jelly and learn new vocabulary, such as 'big' and 'small' as they play with different sized equipment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The recently implemented routines at lunchtime are not fully embedded to support all children to develop their independence and social skills to the highest levels.
- Opportunities for staff to share ideas and develop their practice are not sharply focused on improving the overall quality of teaching even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed newly developed routines at lunchtime to develop children's independence and social skills to the highest levels
- extend opportunities for staff to share ideas and improve the overall quality of practice to the highest levels.

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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager (provider) and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a thorough understanding of the policies and procedures that are in place to protect children's welfare. The management team has developed an effective programme for the professional development for all staff. There is a strong commitment from managers to provide regular high-quality training and focused supervision sessions. Staff are supported well to complete further qualifications. All staff have established close working relationships with parents and value feedback from parents to support them to evaluate the service and identify areas for ongoing improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well. They make regular observations of children's learning and ensure that planned activities incorporate children's interests. For instance, babies are delighted to play musical instruments as they join in with singing their favourite nursery rhymes. Staff place a high importance on promoting children's communication skills. They work at children's level, promote good eye contact and extend children's learning through questioning and modelling of skills. Staff work closely with parents. They use children's home languages to support their understanding of the day and to help them to settle into the routines at the setting. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about their local community and diversity within the nursery. For instance, children learn about different festivals throughout the year and talk about their experiences at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Behaviour is good. Staff are calm and positive role models. Children respond well to praise. They learn to play alongside one another without problems and are supported to share and take turns. Babies show care and concern for one another when they are upset. Children's physical skills are well developed, and parents comment that they are delighted with the introduction of a weekly dance class. Children learn about the importance of healthy lifestyles and hygiene routines. For example, they squeeze oranges to make juice at breakfast time and grow vegetables in the garden area. Children take responsibility for looking after their toys. They tidy up well before lunchtime and understand the need to use resources, such as large construction toys, safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children become effective communicators and explore their environment with confidence. Children learn a range of skills that prepares them well for their move to school. Older children successfully learn to write their name, count accurately and solve problems as they play. For instance, they make different sized ramps and investigate which car travels fastest. All children make good progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY385314
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10062375
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	108
Number of children on roll	85
Name of registered person	Star Child Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905511
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2016
Telephone number	02086896532

Star Child Montessori Day Nursery registered in 2004 and is located in Thornton Heath, Croydon. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 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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