Phileas Fox Nursery School



St Mary's Square, LONDON W2 1SE

Inspection date	19 November 2018
Previous inspection date	21 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of 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

- The manager has an exceptional approach to leading her team, which has created a fantastic environment for children. She constantly reflects and evaluates on the provision and actively acts on advice and feedback from the parents and staff.
- Meticulous observation and assessment of children helps staff to quickly identify those who may require additional support, and highly effective plans are implemented immediately. All children are developing exceptionally well in all areas.
- Children are visibly happy. They have developed incredibly strong bonds with staff and arrive at the nursery eager to start their day. Staff are immensely caring and establish extremely positive, warm relationships with children, supporting their emotional wellbeing superbly.
- Children are extremely well prepared for future learning. They make excellent progress in their social, personal, language and physical skills. Staff plan varied and rich learning experiences for all age groups and abilities.
- The quality of teaching and interactions between the staff and children is remarkable. The manager and her team have created a stimulating environment where children have the freedom to become independent learners.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

continue to implement plans to develop further the already excellent experiences on offer for children to explore and investigate while outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children as they engaged together in activities.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled various documents, including children's learning records, risk assessments and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of the parents and carers spoken with on the day of the inspection and engaged with children at appropriate times.

Inspector

Laura Rathbone

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The staff are extremely well trained and knowledgeable with regards to their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. Staff know the signs and symptoms of abuse and have a clear understanding about how to report a possible concern. The manager has high expectations for the setting and she uses a robust and regular self-evaluation system to make improvements. For example, stay-and-play sessions have been recently introduced, after parents commented that they would like to see what their children do at nursery. The manager monitors staff performance extremely well, for example, through regular and thorough supervisory arrangements. Parents are overwhelmingly supportive of the nursery, commenting on the exceptional progress their children have made since they started.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are provided with a wonderfully exciting, interesting and motivating environment. Their interests and individual needs are consistently taken on board and used as a tool for planning activities. For example, staff prepared a number-recognition activity, after previous observations showed that some children needed additional support in this area. Staff provide children with countless opportunities to investigate the outdoor area. They have recently introduced a 'writing shed' and 'reading den', after attending training about mark making. Staff are currently working on plans to develop this space even further. Children learn about the world in which they live, through interesting and exciting topic activities. For example, they happily created fingerprints and discussed fire safety as part of their 'people who help us' topic.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are incredibly well behaved and demonstrate kind and friendly behaviour. Staff and children enthusiastically sing the please and thank you song at lunch time to help remember good manners. There are many opportunities for children to become independent learners and to be responsible. For example, at lunchtime, children scrape their plates when they have finished eating, stack them and serve themselves desert. Staff and children have developed strong and caring relationships with each other. Children regularly go up to staff for a chat or a cuddle, to which staff always respond in an incredibly nurturing and respectful manner.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children are eager to learn and extremely confident in exploring and finding things out for themselves. They are highly expressive and are skilled communicators. For example, during a group discussion about the different seasons, children suggested that it was similar to a circle, as it keeps going round and round. Children make superb progress from their starting points and are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference numberEY495108Local authorityWestminsterInspection number10076571Type of provisionFull day care

Registers Early Years Register

Day care typeChildcare on non-domestic premises

Age range of children0 - 4Total number of places50Number of children on roll53

Name of registered person Phileas Fox Nursery School

Registered person unique

reference number

RP535006

Date of previous inspection 21 July 2016 **Telephone number** 02077232106

Phileas Fox Nursery registered in 2015. The nursery is situated in Little Venice, in the London Borough of Westminster. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 3 to level 6, one member of staff holds qualified teacher status and the manager has completed early years initial teacher training. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 44 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 5pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three-and four-year-old children.

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