

Inspection of Little Leaders Stonegrove

Community Centre, 5 Hayling Way, Edgware, Barnet HA8 8BN

Inspection date: 17 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children benefit from a nurturing and welcoming learning environment. They settle well into the daily routines, play happily and get on well together. Staff display children's photographs and those of their family members in the setting. This helps children to develop a good sense of belonging and self-worth. Staff know how children learn and develop through play, but are not consistently effective in extending their language and thinking skills. They check the progress children make. When identifying gaps in children's learning, they provide good support to help children to catch up. Children make good progress overall. Children who speak English as an additional language and those for whom the nursery receives additional funding learn equally well. Staff prepare children well for the next stages of their learning and development, including starting school. Children use their imagination and are curious. For example, younger children explore different-coloured paints and observe how colours change when they mix them together, and older children use a variety of collage resources to wrap up their Christmas parcels. Children keenly put on their coats before they go outside to play. However, the activities provided are insufficiently challenging for older children. Children's behaviour is good. Staff only have to give a gentle reminder to help them put toys away as the children respond well to instructions.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff gather relevant information from parents to establish children's starting points before they join the nursery. They use this information alongside their observations to inform future planning. Staff are confident to approach outside professionals if they have any concerns about a child's learning.
- Managers and staff plan and provide a stimulating educational programme that helps children to acquire new knowledge and skills. They ensure that the learning stems from children's interests and meets their individual needs. This motivates children to learn. For example, when children showed interest in farm animals, staff provided good opportunities for children to name animals and to learn about the sounds they make.
- Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the nursery. For example, younger children are keen to roll, pat and cut play dough to make different shapes. Older children can build their favourite models safely. Children learn to count, sort and match simple objects. However, staff are not fully consistent in the way they extend children's language and thinking skills to deepen their learning.
- Children form strong bonds with staff and feel safe and secure in their care. Staff remind children to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Children happily share resources and take turns. They display positive attitudes to learning.
- Staff help children to adopt healthy eating habits and meet their dietary requirements carefully. Children understand that they need to wash their hands

before eating. They learn to serve themselves and know that fruit and water are good for them.

- Children have regular access to the outdoors. Younger children enjoy physical exercise and learn to climb and slide on the apparatus safely. However, older children do not receive enough challenging activities to further develop their physical skills.
- Staff communicate closely with parents to keep them informed about their children's learning and development. They involve parents in planning the next steps. Parents comment that their children look forward to coming to the nursery and learn well.
- Managers supervise staff and offer them regular mentoring and training to guide improvements. They plan with staff and are alert to their workload. Staff appreciate the very good support they receive from managers and comment positively on the way they look after their well-being.
- Managers seek the comments and suggestions of staff, parents and others to continually improve their service. They work well with providers when the time comes for the children to move on.
- Children engage well in activities that help them to learn about their own cultures and other communities around them. This helps children be tolerant of others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures help to ensure that all staff are suitable to fulfil their roles. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of safeguarding requirements and know the referral procedures to keep children safe. Managers help staff to be familiar with induction procedures and to be clear about the expectations. Staff are also quizzed on a variety of safeguarding topics to assess any gaps in their learning. Managers ensure that safeguarding policies and procedures are made available to staff, parents and others. Staff carry out regular and thorough risk assessments of the premises and equipment to help children remain safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- offer higher levels of challenge to help children to develop their language and thinking skills even further
- provide more challenging activities to fully extend and support the older children's physical development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY562191
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10114976
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	Little Leaders Nursery LTD
Registered person unique reference number	RP910235
Telephone number	02089588881
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Leaders Stonegrove registered in 2018. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, six of whom hold early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Fatiha Maitland

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk in all parts of the nursery to understand how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector spoke to some members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the management team.
- The inspector carried out one joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed their written comments and suggestions.
- The inspector looked at the nursery's policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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