

Inspection of Little Einsteins

141 Railton Road, London SE24 0LT

Inspection date: 17 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy, confident and settle well in the nursery. They have secure and warm relationships with staff, who are very caring. Staff consistently offer praise and encouragement and take time to listen to children's experiences and ideas. This helps children to feel valued and supported. Children behave well and understand the routines. For example, they eagerly joined in the tidying-up song as they helped staff to put resources away. Older children concentrate well and take time to listen to their peers during story sessions. Younger children are learning to share and take turns as they use ride-on toys. Children are inquisitive and keen to learn. Staff interact with children well and generally provide helpful guidance. For example, when toddlers and babies explored sensory materials such as sand and play dough, staff introduced new language such as 'squishy' and 'squeeze'. Older children were helped to explore mathematical concepts such as 'half' and 'quarter' as they cut up their own fruit in preparation for snack time. However, as some resources were stored and presented haphazardly, they were not inviting to children. Since the previous inspection, all areas identified for improvement have been addressed and appropriate targets have been set for further development.

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

- Staff support children's developing language and communication skills well. For example, during a story about 'Wilfred Wolf', staff skilfully asked children questions to help them explore their own life experiences and feelings; children excitedly talked about how they dance at parties, eat delicious cakes and drink pineapple juice. Children are imaginative and enjoy playing cooperatively during role play. For example, they pretended to make telephone calls to 'nanny' and talked about making sure the baby dolls are kept warm so they did not become sick.
- Children with additional needs are supported well. Staff work closely with parents to ensure that they offer a consistent approach to children's development. Staff work with other agencies to ensure that children's needs are well planned for and supported in the nursery.
- Staff benefit from regular monitoring of their practice. The manager provides them with good opportunities for professional development and has plans to enhance these to children's benefit.
- Staff plan a curriculum effectively that builds on what children know and can do and prepares them for their future learning. New systems have been implemented for planning, and for assessing children's development. These have enabled staff to focus more precisely on meeting children's needs and interests. However, the planning of learning through outdoor experiences is limited.
- Indoors, there is a wide range of resources to develop children's skills. For example, their physical skills are promoted by activities such as balancing,

kicking balls and managing steps on the slide. Children show determination as they use their small-muscle skills to build tall towers with bricks. However, some resources in the main playroom were disorganised and uninviting.

- Parents are extremely happy with the care that their children receive. Typical comments included that the service is 'fantastic' and that 'staff go the extra mile' to support their children's development. Parents say that their children have made very good progress, and particularly value the support given to them by staff. They find staff caring and friendly.
- Children are provided with a range of healthy and nutritious meals and snacks to support healthy lifestyles. Staff talk to children about the importance of a healthy diet including, for example, why fruits are good for us.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well. Parents share key words with staff, who use these with children as they play. This helps to build children's self-esteem and adds to their feeling of being valued within the nursery.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding arrangements have been improved since the last inspection. There are secure systems in place to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have received safeguarding training and understand how to identify and report concerns regarding children's safety and welfare. Children's safety in the nursery is supported by daily risk assessments and by teaching about how to stay safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure that the learning environment is well organised so that children can access a range of good-quality resources to support their learning
- develop provision to support and engage children's outdoor play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY541226
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10115292
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 9
Total number of places	41
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Little Einsteins Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP541225
Telephone number	00442077387499
Date of previous inspection	17 June 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Einsteins is located in the London Borough of Lambeth. It operates from 7.30am until 6.30pm on weekdays, all year. The nursery is closed for two weeks for Christmas and New Year. It employs four staff, including the manager. All staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager has a qualification in childcare at level 7.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Laura Brewer

Inspection activities

- The manager and the inspector carried out a learning walk and discussed the approach to early education.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation of an activity and discussed how well children are being taught in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including records of children's learning and evidence of staff suitability.

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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