

Inspection of The Littlehaven Nursery

Castlehaven Community Association, The Community Centre, 21 Castlehaven Road,
LONDON NW1 8RU

Inspection date: 10 January 2020

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	Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The nursery is well organised. Staff plan a good range of opportunities for children to learn and develop skills as they play and explore. All children enjoy exploring in the garden as they develop physical skills and learn about the natural world. They learn the value of positive relationships from an early age, due to the improvements made to the key-person arrangements since the last inspection. Babies have strong attachments to the adults who care for them and seek affection and cuddles when needed. They are very secure and familiar with the routine as staff respectfully explain what is happening to support their sense of belonging. Older children also have positive relationships with adults and with one another. Children enjoy regular outings and trips in the local area. They learn about other cultures and traditions as they visit local specialised restaurants. They learn to take care of plants and are very confident in explaining that they need water to grow. They benefit from growing their own fruit and vegetables and take pride in their achievements. Children are confident, friendly and well behaved. They share toys, listen to one another's ideas and develop valuable social skills in readiness for starting school.

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

- The manager has implemented new systems to support staff through regular supervisions and training. These arrangements have helped to drive many improvements in relation to the actions set at the last inspection. The improvements contribute to positive outcomes for children. For example, there is strong support for children's personal, social and emotional development. The manager is clear about expectations for the quality of the educational programmes, and staff are enthusiastic about the direction she provides. However, there is potential to review staff practice even further to build on and enhance teaching to an even higher standard.
- Staff know the children well and provide a good curriculum according to children's needs, progress and interests. Staff are positive role models who are kind, respectful and caring. They teach children to understand and follow simple rules and the importance of sharing and collaborating with one another. Therefore, children are very well behaved and caring, and they develop valuable social skills for their future lives.
- Parent partnerships are strong and positive. Parents spoke to the inspector with enthusiasm, describing the staff team as 'caring' and 'hardworking'. Parents explain that they value the new arrangements in place for meetings to discuss their children's progress. The new manager has taken steps to develop positive relations with local schools and to share information about children's progress.
- Staff are particularly skilled at supporting children's communication and language skills. They respond to sounds young babies make and motivate them

by repeating and emphasising key words. They sing songs and rhymes throughout the routine, which babies thrive on repeating as they clap and copy actions. Staff engage older children in interesting conversations, motivating them to learn new words and develop ideas.

- Babies confidently explore and investigate the good range of resources staff place carefully and safely within their reach. This helps young children to become independent and to make their own choices. Staff support older children to be independent and encourage them to try things out for themselves. Consequently, children manage to dress themselves as they prepare to play outside and help to set up for lunch. Staff praise them for their achievements and respond well when they need additional support. Therefore, children feel valued and encouraged, which boosts their self-esteem. However, there are times in the routine when some staff miss opportunities to help children to take care of their own immediate environment, such as tidying up as they play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There are lots of displays, and guidance, throughout the nursery, placing high importance on child protection. Staff undertake regular safeguarding training. They understand the importance of identifying when child protection procedures need to be followed and know how to respond appropriately. The provider has clear recruitment and induction procedures in place to check that staff are suitable to care for children. Staff follow a range of safety procedures, such as checking all areas, toys and resources are clean and safe. Furthermore, they effectively teach children about their own safety and well-being, such as road safety during walks in the local area.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop a broader approach to evaluating staff practice to help enhance their good-quality teaching skills even further
- make the most of opportunities to teach children about the importance of caring for their immediate environment, toys and equipment throughout the daily routine.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY424738
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	10117978
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 8
Total number of places	43
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Castlehaven Community Association
Registered person unique reference number	RP901868
Telephone number	0207 6922293
Date of previous inspection	12 July 2019

Information about this early years setting

The Littlehaven Nursery registered in 2011 and is located in the London Borough of Camden. The nursery operates Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 14 staff employed at the nursery and ten hold early years qualifications at level 2 or above. This includes two members of staff who hold a degree in childcare. The nursery is in receipt of funding for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Linda du Preez

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children throughout the day.
- During a leadership and management meeting, the inspector held discussions with the leadership team and reviewed documents.
- Parents, staff and children held discussions with the inspector throughout the day.
- The inspector and the manager conducted a learning walk and joint observation together.

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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