

Inspection of Keren's Nursery

Belsize Square Synagogue, 51 Belsize Square, LONDON NW3 4HX

Inspection date: 4 March 2020

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The nursery is a 'home from home' for children who attend. The environment is described by parents as 'warm and nurturing'. Children are spoken to in their home language, as well as in English, to help them settle and develop strong relationships with their key person. Children have access to a wide and varied curriculum that promotes all areas of learning. Activities include yoga, cooking, forest school sessions and music and movement. Children are inquisitive and curious to explore the environment around them, inside and outdoors. Teachers have high expectations of all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Children play cooperatively with each other and learn how to negotiate and resolve any conflict. They understand the rules of play and are confident to share their ideas with others. Teachers enable children to develop their independence skills by giving them choices throughout the day. For example, different music choices include Hebrew, English and Spanish. Partnerships with parents are strong, and the nursery has a community feel. For example, parents bring in cakes when it is their child's birthday to celebrate with the other children. Teachers continue to consider ways to help children to build on their growing awareness of hygiene practices. They miss some opportunities to fully enhance children's vocabulary, particularly during free play.

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

- Teachers know children well. They understand their starting points and check the progress they make. As well as promoting English, teachers understand that some of the children respond better to instructions in their home language, and incorporate this into their learning. Children can count to 10 in Hebrew and English. Children who speak other additional languages are supported to count in, for example, Spanish and French.
- Teachers use focused learning activities well to model language to children and expand their knowledge of different concepts. For example, children were asked leading questions such as 'What do you think would happen?' This gives them the opportunity to reflect and problem-solve. However, opportunities to extend language outside of focused activities are often missed.
- The setting has a strong focus on children's physical development and has been part of a pilot scheme to focus on the importance of movement in learning. Teachers use their knowledge of this framework to develop children's physical abilities, and are alert to early signs that may signal additional intervention is needed.
- The needs of children with SEND are catered for exceptionally well. Teachers adapt the environment to meet the needs of all children. The nursery works effectively with parents and other agencies to ensure children make progress from their starting points.

- Children learn about a diverse range of festivals and occasions that are special to families that attend. Children learn what makes them unique as individuals. They learn that families are diverse, and come in different forms.
- Children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and cooking. Staff use a rhyme to teach the children the correct way to wash their hands. Children are encouraged to cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze. There are times, however, when opportunities are missed during cooking activities to educate children about how germs spread by licking items that are included in a recipe.
- Communication with parents is extremely effective. Parents are updated throughout the day, as well as receiving a verbal handover on collection. An active parent and teacher association ensures parents have a voice within the nursery. The setting has a regular survey that parents can fill in anonymously, if they would prefer, as well as a suggestion box.
- Leaders and managers have a robust induction period for new staff. Monthly training events ensure all staff develop the skills and knowledge needed in their roles. Managers spend a minimum of three hours each in rooms weekly, leading activities and observing practice to ensure quality. Leaders and managers have a comprehensive development plan for the nursery which is regularly reviewed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Security guards are situated at the front of the setting to ensure the safety of staff and children. A security guard also accompanies children on any outings they attend. Staff have a broad knowledge of safeguarding. They can recognise possible signs of abuse and know what to do if they have a concern. Leaders and managers can explain how they would proceed with any allegations received. The setting has robust procedures in place for dealing with an accident or incident, and are familiar with risk assessments.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- seek opportunities to extend children's vocabulary and understanding during free play
- broaden children's understanding of how to keep themselves and others healthy and safe during activities that involve food.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441637
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	10137830
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Kerens Gan Belsize Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP904168
Telephone number	02084559646
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

Keren's Nursery registered in 2011 and operates from Belsize Square Synagogue, in the London Borough of Camden. The setting is open Monday to Thursday from 8am to 6pm, and on Friday from 8am to 2pm. It operates for 46 weeks of the year. The provider employs 18 staff members, over half of whom hold suitable qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 6. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Natalie OLeary

Inspection activities

- The manager accompanied the inspector on a learning walk to discuss how the curriculum is organised across the nursery.
- The inspector considered the quality of education in all rooms in the nursery to see the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations and held meetings with the manager and owner of the nursery.
- The inspected spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with staff at the nursery.

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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