

Inspection of Brown Bears Nursery

582 Green Lanes, London N8 0RP

Inspection date: 11 January 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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 arrive happily at the nursery. They enthusiastically greet their key person and immediately begin to explore the activities in the room. Children are confident and keen to learn. They choose what they would like to play with from a variety of good resources and persevere with tasks. Language is a high priority. Children are encouraged to read their favourite books and to make marks in the outside area. This supports their early communication and language development.

Relationships between key persons and children are good. Staff are attentive to their needs and support them in a calm and nurturing way. Behaviour is good and the nursery routines are well understood. Children know how to share and take turns. They enjoy helping each other. For example, children enjoy tidying up and helping to lay the table before lunch.

All of the children thrive in the safe and secure environment. The older children are confident and prepared for the next steps in their learning. The manager and staff understand the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the children and have worked very hard with their families to support the children's emotional well-being.

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

- Children become independent and confident learners. They are supported by key persons who understand the learning and development needs of the children they care for. Staff accurately assess what the children can do when they start at the nursery. Activities provide the children with rich, stimulating learning experiences.
- Children's behaviour and social development are good. Children understand behaviour expectations and try hard to behave well. They are kind and considerate to each other and the adults who support them. Nursery routines are well established. For example, children quickly find their coats and shoes when they are told it is time to go outside and they wash their hands before lunch.
- Good health is promoted across the nursery. Children spend lots of time in the well-resourced outside area. They develop strong physical skills as they take part in regular soft-play and yoga sessions. The local area is used well. Frequent trips are organised to local parks and other notable local landmarks. The food is healthy and nutritious and thoroughly enjoyed by the children. Effective hygiene routines are in place, protecting everyone's ongoing health and safety.
- Communication and language learning is a key focus. Staff spend lots of time talking to the children. They introduce new words and model their correct usage. Every opportunity is used to develop the children's vocabulary. For example,

while babies are being changed, staff sing songs and rhymes to them, encouraging them to join in.

- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported by their key persons. Staff identify any difficulties early on. Where appropriate, they work with other professionals to target support which meets the child's needs.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents report that they are kept up to date with their children's learning and are encouraged to support their child's development at home. Parents say their children were well supported during the COVID-19 pandemic and that they are very happy with the ongoing care and teaching their children receive.
- The manager and staff work hard to review and improve the curriculum. They provide a curriculum that is based on children's needs and interests. Currently, they are focusing on challenging and extending children's learning. Not all staff are confident enough yet to ensure all the activities they plan support this new initiative.
- The manager understands the importance of staff training and professional development. She holds regular one-to-one meetings with staff, where she discusses their teaching practice and their well-being. Staff access training that improves their teaching and knowledge. They are highly valued and report that they feel supported both professionally and personally by their managers.
- Staff have high expectations of the children. They plan a broad curriculum that supports all the areas of learning and development and takes account of children's individual needs. Children's age-related expectations are always considered. For example, children in the pre-school room learn how to become more independent, preparing them for their transition to school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities and how to protect the children they care for. Regular safeguarding training is organised to keep staff knowledge and understanding up to date. Monthly staff meetings and supervision sessions are used to discuss any safeguarding issues. Policies and procedures are shared with staff and parents. Staff understand the signs that children may be at risk of harm and know how to report their concerns. The nursery environment is safe and secure. Regular risk assessments are carried out and appropriate action is taken to ensure the children's safety at all times.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure teaching practice and planned activities challenge and extend children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY558397
Local authority	Haringey
Inspection number	10175141
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 at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Subscription Solutions UK Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP533158
Telephone number	07808182701
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Brown Bears Nursery registered in 2018 and is situated in the London Borough of Haringey. It is part of the Brown Bears Nurseries chain. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. It is registered for up to 40 children aged from three months to four years old. There are seven childcare staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Paul Church

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in his evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk around the nursery. They discussed how the curriculum is organised and planned.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of the education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- A variety of documents, including qualifications, suitability checks, policies and records, were reviewed. The inspector discussed leadership and management with the manager and provided feedback.

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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