

# Inspection of Hopscotch Nursery

215 Chevening Road, London NW6 6DT

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Inspection date: 10 February 2022

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## **Overall effectiveness**

**Outstanding**

The quality of education

**Outstanding**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Outstanding**

Personal development

**Outstanding**

Leadership and management

**Outstanding**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is outstanding**

Staff have extremely positive and nurturing relationships with children. Even the youngest children brim with confidence, are eager to get to know visitors and actively engage with them. Staff know children exceptionally well. Each member of staff knows about each babies' interests, likes and dislikes and developmental stage. One-to-one interaction with babies is a priority for staff. They smile at them, use a soft, warm tone of voice and maintain good eye contact. Babies show they feel safe and settle incredibly well.

Staff implement a curriculum that is deep, challenging and exciting. It builds precisely on what children need to learn next. Children learn excellent skills in preparation for school. Children take great delight in a very rich, inspiring range of activities. For example, older children enjoy a science session with 'Mrs Science', who shows them how to make exploding volcanos from a bicarbonate of soda mixture. Children are as enthralled as they are engaged. They follow instructions well and take turns to add different ingredients, pouring and stirring skilfully. Staff support children's understanding extremely well, and describe how the formula alters when different ingredients are added. Children use ambitious vocabulary, such as 'erupting' and 'foaming', to describe the mixture as it changes. They excitedly talk about how it looks like a volcano. This supports children's understanding of the world superbly.

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

- Staff plan meticulously and ensure activities comprehensively cover all areas of learning. They link experiences to children's interests very effectively. Staff have excellent knowledge of where children are in their development and use their regular thorough observations to ensure that children are challenged to a high level. Children make excellent progress in their learning.
- Staff help children to gain excellent communication and language skills. For example, they stimulate discussion among children by using a bucket of interesting items. Staff sing a song, children choose an object and staff explain what it is and how it is used. During morning group time, staff sing a welcome song with children and they greet and learn each other's names. They discuss the weather and day of the week. Staff teach them new words during this time and children have very good opportunities to speak and listen.
- Children have excellent opportunities to learn about the world around them. For example, staff and children take part in a bird watching initiative. Children delight in trying to spot different birds outdoors to match them against their picture cards. Children plant and grow vegetables in the outdoor area. This helps them to understand where food comes from and how things grow.
- Staff help children to gain strong technology skills. For instance, children work

with floor sensor software applications, which detect children's movements as they match numbers to different quantities of objects. Children use new words, such as 'detect' and 'sensor'. They concentrate very well and persevere as the task becomes even more challenging.

- Children develop superb physical skills. The spacious, well-designed outdoor area provides children with a very wide range of physical opportunities. Staff create interesting and challenging obstacle races and organise games to develop children's physical coordination skills. Children skilfully climb across frames and balance very well on scooters.
- Staff manage children's behaviour successfully. Staff share group rules with children. They fully understand and children act in highly positive ways. Older children remind their younger peers of acceptable ways to behave. They play cooperatively together and show respect towards each other.
- Staff work exceptionally well with parents. They keep them well informed of children's progress in highly effective ways, such regular parents' meetings, daily verbal feedback and on a secure software application. Staff give parents ideas for home activities to support children's learning.
- The manager provides highly effective support to staff. She meets with them individually and regularly to discuss and support their needs in relation to workloads, well-being and training. Staff have attended many courses that were targeted to meet their individual needs. For example, a course to develop a greater understanding of autism spectrum disorder led to heightened awareness and understanding in this area.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have excellent understanding of how to identify any signs that a child may be at risk of abuse. They are fully aware of the procedures to follow to report concerns and keep children protected from harm. Staff are vigilant to any signs that a child may be exposed to extreme views. They are fully aware of the relevant agencies to report their concerns to. All staff receive safeguarding training and attend updates to ensure their skills are current. This helps to protect children from harm. Children's safety is paramount. Staff carry out comprehensive daily safety checks covering all parts of the nursery.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	137807
<b>Local authority</b>	Brent
<b>Inspection number</b>	10137789
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	1 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	48
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	46
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Hopscotch Under Fives
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP523628
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8969 9792
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	6 May 2016

## Information about this early years setting

Hopscotch Nursery was registered in 1996. It is located in Queen's Park, in the London Borough of Brent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.30pm, for 47 weeks of the year and is closed on public bank holidays. There are 11 staff, including the manager. Of these, 12 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Jenny Beckles

## 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 childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- The inspector went on a learning walk around the nursery with the manager.
- Interactions between staff and children were observed and the inspector spoke with children, when appropriate.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The view of staff and children were considered by the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector checked some documentation and held a discussion with the manager.

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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