

Inspection of Riverside Nursery Limited

Ensign House, Juniper Drive, LONDON SW18 1TA

Inspection date: 9 February 2022

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children and parents feel very warmly welcomed when they first arrive. This helps to develop positive relationships with staff and promote children's emotional well-being. Children settle quickly, find toys they enjoy playing with, and behave well. Babies anticipate what happens when they press buttons on technology toys and younger children concentrate as they make random marks with coloured pencils. Children are active, curious, and keen learners. They are happy and enjoy their time at this thriving Montessori nursery.

Children build very positive relationships with their key person. Attentive key staff very quickly respond to young children who find it difficult to settle. They appreciate lots of cuddles and reassurance. Parents say they recognise and value the secure attachments their children build with their key persons.

All children benefit from plenty of fresh air and physical exercise. Young children enjoy many opportunities to challenge their physical capabilities. They keenly crawl up slopes without fear of failure and skilfully shuffle down. Children respond to staff's encouragement and praise that helps to further promote their sense of achievement. Older children ride tricycles and toy cars with great enthusiasm. They develop their large muscles, balance and coordination.

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

- Leaders have worked tirelessly to ensure the nursery remains open for the community and working parents during the COVID-19 pandemic. During the initial lockdown, the manager kept in touch with parents. They suggested home learning ideas, so that learning could continue at home. Leaders remain cautious and continue to have measures to minimise the spread of infection. For example, they manage drop off and pick up times more effectively.
- Staff say leaders support them well. Leaders recognise the impact COVID-19 has had on staff morale, health and emotional well-being. Leaders organise regular supervision meetings to help support staff's well-being, discuss areas for improvement and ongoing suitability. Some staff are currently working towards childcare qualifications and a Montessori diploma. However, not all staff consistently access training to further promote their professional development and enhance outcomes for children.
- Overall, leaders' self-evaluation is good. For example, they liaise with the local authority early years team, attend forums, and use a range of assessment tools to measure the quality of the environment and interactions. They acknowledge the areas for improvement.
- Staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities to a good level. Staff are proactive in their approach. They liaise with other

professionals to help identify the support children require. This early intervention helps all children make the best possible progress and achieve well from when they first start.

- Staff sequence children's learning well. Staff encourage the youngest children to feed themselves and older children independently serve themselves during mealtimes. Older children skilfully pour themselves a drink and babies drink from beakers to help support healthy habits. This also further promote children's self-help skills and in preparation for school.
- Children enthusiastically engage in a range of planned learning experiences. They are busy and keen learners. However, on occasion staff disrupt learning with changes in the daily routines. This means children cannot always become deeply involved and engaged in their learning. Nevertheless, older children confidently practise skills they remember over time. For example, children know and use Montessori equipment correctly. They firmly grip a mortar and pestle and successfully grind natural materials, to strengthen small muscles.
- The curriculum focuses strongly on promoting communication and language skills. For example, staff encourage children to listen to environmental sounds, such as when an aeroplane flies over the nursery. Furthermore, as babies shake a rattle, staff say 'Shake, shake, shake' to help extend their vocabulary. Staff successfully support children's early literacy. Children enjoy listening to stories staff read. They pretend to read books to each other, ready for when they can read themselves.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders ensure staff have a good knowledge of a wide range of safeguarding issues and how to keep children safe. They have a secure understanding of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff discuss safeguarding routinely, for example during staff meetings and regular quizzes. This helps to promote children's safety and keep staff's knowledge current. Leaders follow thorough recruitment procedures to help ensure all staff's suitability.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- identify continuous professional development opportunities for all staff to help enhance the already good quality teaching
- monitor and review routines of the day, so that children have less interruptions and become more engaged in their play and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY455603
Local authority	Wandsworth
Inspection number	10128527
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	112
Number of children on roll	101
Name of registered person	Riverside Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905531
Telephone number	0207 0784098
Date of previous inspection	1 July 2013

Information about this early years setting

Riverside Montessori Nursery registered in 2010. The nursery is located in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The nursery opens each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round, apart from short breaks at Christmas, Easter and two weeks in August. The nursery employs 19 staff. Staff hold relevant early years qualifications ranging between level 6 and level 2. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jane Morgan

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector gained parent's views and took these into account.
- The inspector viewed a range of documents, including qualification certificates, public liability insurance and paediatric first-aid qualifications.
- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the deputy manager through all areas of the premises used by the children. They discussed the implementation of the curriculum and Montessori ethos.
- The inspector held a meeting with leaders to discuss management issues and self-evaluation.

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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