

Inspection of King Square Community Nursery at Rahere House

Rahere House, Central Street, LONDON EC1V 8DE

Inspection date: 7 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children positively flourish in this exceptional nursery. They develop strong attachments to the caring and attentive staff, which enables them to settle quickly and feel very safe and secure. Children receive outstanding support for their personal, social and emotional development. Consequently, they learn to express how they are feeling and show kindness and consideration towards others. For example, children are concerned when their friends feel sad. They help them to feel better by inviting them to join their game.

Children benefit from an inspiring curriculum, which supports their progress across all areas of learning. They respond positively to staff's high expectations and are highly motivated to explore the enticing activities. For instance, babies investigate new tastes and textures during 'food play' with yogurt and raw vegetables. They are fascinated as they discover that their movements create marks. Children are wonderfully supported to use their imaginations, find solutions and persist at activities. For instance, when children want to create houses to shelter from the wind, staff ensure that they have access to the tools and resources that they need. Children are highly focused as they shape and join the materials. They decorate their houses with colourful patterns and are immensely proud of their achievements.

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

- Leaders continuously evaluate the provision and strive for excellence at all times. They swiftly implement development plans, to further strengthen practice and ensure the highest quality of care and education for all children who attend. Leaders make very effective use of additional funding, to help children who come from disadvantaged backgrounds develop secure foundations for later learning.
- Staff are passionate about their roles and report that they feel thoroughly supported by the leadership team. They access highly effective training and supervision, to continuously develop their professional skills. For example, staff have developed a deep understanding of how to promote children's language development.
- Children love to sing and share stories with staff. They enjoy conversations and confidently express their thoughts and ideas. When children experience difficulties in communicating, staff use highly effective strategies to help them. Parents report on the excellent progress their children make with this structured support in place.
- Staff know the children exceptionally well. They provide highly stimulating activities, to support children's interests and reduce any gaps in their learning. Staff promptly identify where children need extra help and provide excellent

support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They have a very inclusive approach and are fully committed to enabling the best possible outcomes for all children.

- Children are extremely independent and motivated to learn. They enjoy being helpful and are eager to assist with tasks, such as setting the tables for lunch. Children willingly follow the well-embedded routines such as nap times. They are thoughtful and remind each other to use quiet voices, so that they do not disturb their friends.
- The nursery participates in the 'Healthy Early Years London' scheme and has achieved a gold award, in recognition of their excellent support for children's health. This includes teaching children about healthy eating and oral hygiene. Children build strong bodies through daily exercise and outdoor play. They thoroughly enjoy activities such as 'play dough disco', which help them to develop their small- and large-muscle movements.
- Children enjoy a wealth of opportunities to learn about their local community and the wider world. They regularly visit the local library, shops, restaurants and parks. Staff also organise outings further afield, such as to classical music concerts and to woodlands for 'forest school' activities. They describe how such experiences enrich children's lives and inspire them to develop new interests and talents.
- Staff build strong relationships with parents and work extremely hard to engage them in their children's learning. Parents report that they are very well informed about their children's experiences at nursery and the progress that they make. They say that staff provide exceptional support, tailored to each family's needs. Parents have a deep appreciation for the wonderful experiences the nursery provides and the difference this makes to their children's lives.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders successfully embed a culture of safeguarding at the nursery. They ensure that all staff receive safeguarding training and understand their role to protect children from harm. Staff confidently describe the signs of potential abuse and neglect. They know how to report concerns about the welfare of a child or the conduct of an adult. Children's safety and well-being are fully engrained into the nursery's ethos. Leaders implement robust recruitment and selection procedures to check that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff are vigilant to risks and follow nursery procedures to maintain a safe and secure environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2587978
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	10249039
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	0 to 2
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	King Square Community Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP523982
Telephone number	0208 187 0345
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

King Square Community Nursery at Rahere House registered in 2020. The nursery is located in the London Borough of Islington. It operates Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, all year round. The provider employs 17 staff to work with the children. Of these, 15 hold an early years qualification. Two staff have early years teacher status and others are qualified at level 3 or level 2. The nursery offers funded early education for children aged two years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The managers showed the inspector around the nursery premises and explained how they organise the environment and learning programmes for children.
- The inspector observed activities and interactions between children and staff, to evaluate the quality of the education. This includes joint observations with the deputy manager.
- Parents, staff and children shared their views and experiences with the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Leaders met with the inspector to discuss issues, such as staff recruitment and training. They ensured that documents, such as staff's suitability checks and paediatric first-aid certificates were available for the inspector to view.

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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