

Inspection of Les Petites Etoiles

St George's Hall, Crayford Road, LONDON N7 0ND

Inspection date: 8 December 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 Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are extremely motivated by this stimulating and well-resourced environment. They show big smiles as staff greet them at the gate. Older children quickly scan the activities on offer, while younger children seek comfort and reassurance from familiar staff. Children are eager to explore, whether they are playing with water, or working out the best way to transport leaves. Leaders have an ambitious ethos for every child. Their aim for children is to become 'an independent and autonomous individual'. Staff carefully create a unique curriculum, which helps children to learn social skills and be independent. As a result, children take ownership of their play by making choices about how to do things and select resources independently.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff are very kind, responsive and excellent role models. Children show respect and kindness to others. They benefit from a consistent routine, which helps them to predict what will happen now and next. For example, younger children are familiar with the routine of washing hands, then find an allocated chair to sit on, which is indicated with their own photo. Parents are provided with a range of information to support their children's learning and development at home. They play a vital role in continuing their children's learning.

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

- Children benefit from a language-rich environment, including children who speak English as an additional language. Staff work with parents to ensure that children hear and use their home languages in their play by learning key words from them. Children enjoy using storytelling cards to create a story and discuss the characters and their feelings with staff.
- Staff have high expectations for children. They give reassurance and encourage children while they learn to manage risks for themselves. For example, staff introduce children to real items, such as a glass and a china bowl at mealtimes. Staff scaffold children's learning until they become confident to handle the items and keep themselves safe.
- As a bilingual nursery, leaders and staff design and deliver an interesting curriculum based on the early years foundation stage and the French framework. The curriculum focuses on children's interests and developmental needs and is well sequenced. Leaders and staff provide a wide range of exciting experiences and activities. Children are highly engaged and focused.
- Staff develop highly effective partnerships with parents. They use a range of methods to engage parents and keep them up to date with their children's progress. Parents' and children's views are captured through an 'All About Me' document and a 'cultural calendar'. Staff use this information to plan enjoyable activities around various cultural celebrations. Parents speak highly of the caring

staff, who they say are friendly and approachable.

- Staff have a clear vision for encouraging children's independence and healthy lifestyle. They provide children with plentiful opportunities to practise this. For example, older children wash their hands, collect their own water bottles and serve themselves. Additionally, staff provide children with various experiences to develop their knowledge about healthy eating. Fresh, nutritious meals are prepared for children and they enjoy talking to their peers about their favourite food. Children also benefit from real-life experiences of nature. For example, they grow vegetables in the planting area and observe how they grow.
- Passionate leaders, who aim to provide a high standard of care and education, lead the enthusiastic and motivated staff team. Staff feel very well supported by leaders. They are provided with excellent opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge further. Leaders establish strong links between the setting and sister settings. Leaders from each setting share new ideas to enhance their provision further.
- Staff know what children can do and need to do next. They are warm and respond well to expand children's critical thinking during play. However, some staff have not developed their teaching skills to the same high quality. At times, the teaching is not as effective as it could be. For instance, when children play with pasta using their senses, they are directed what to do with them. As a result, children quickly move to other activities. This means that some children do not have as many opportunities as others to practise their thinking skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff and leaders have a thorough knowledge of how to keep children safe. They accurately identify the potential signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. They understand the procedures to follow if concerned about a child's welfare or if an allegation is made. Regular safeguarding training is provided to all staff members. Staff use effective risk assessments to ensure that children can play safely indoors and outdoors. They are deployed effectively and supervise children well. Leaders implement robust recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the system for monitoring staff's practice to improve consistency in the quality of teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412485
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	10235425
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 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	Les Petites Etoiles Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529898
Telephone number	0207 697 8110
Date of previous inspection	9 January 2017

Information about this early years setting

Les Petites Etoiles Limited is a bilingual French and English-speaking nursery school, situated in the London Borough of Islington. The nursery was registered in 2010. It is open all year round from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs 20 members of staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, four hold appropriate qualifications at level 6, one is qualified to level 4, seven are qualified to level 3, four are qualified to level 2 and three are unqualified.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Yuko Utsumi

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 provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in 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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