

Inspection of Smarty Pants @ Abbey Lane Children's Centre

Abbey Lane Children's Centre, 1 Abbey Lane, London, Newham E15 2SD

Inspection date: 27 March 2023

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 arrive happy and are warmly welcomed by a familiar adult. This ensures that they feel secure and settle quickly. Children build strong attachments. They receive regular cuddles and reassurance when needed, which supports their emotional well-being.

Children benefit from the wide range of resources on offer. They make choices and engage in activities which spark their interests. Babies explore and investigate different objects and materials. They show delight as they find differently shaped and sized shiny objects, sharing their excitement with staff. This helps develop their hand muscles. Older children's learning is extended as staff engage them in conversations, which helps to increase their understanding as they find different length sticks in the garden to make brooms.

The manager has high expectations for all children, including children with additional needs. Young children learn the routine from an early age. They listen well to staff and follow instructions. Older children help tidy away their toys and use cloths to wipe spills. Children share resources and older children are good role models for younger children as they help to transport water into tubes using different buckets. Generally, children behave well, with staff sharing gentle reminders, and staff support their independence skills well.

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

- The manager and staff have designed a well-sequenced curriculum with a particular focus on children's communication and language development. Staff know children and what they are working towards well. All children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points. The special educational needs coordinator works well with other professionals to support children at the nursery.
- Staff promote children's communication and language well. They have completed various projects to support children's communication development and use strategies they have learned well in their everyday practice. Staff actively engage children in conversations, ask questions and give children time to respond. They babble with babies, use facial expressions and respond to sounds. Children learn new vocabulary. Staff enthusiastically share stories and sing with children to increase their confidence in communicating.
- Children use mathematical language during their play and learning. For example, older children are eager to find large and small sticks for their brooms. Babies enjoy finding differently sized animals as they look at a familiar book. Staff introduce mathematical language as children add more mud to their mud recipe

or fill buckets halfway with water. As a result, children become confident to use mathematical language in their play.

- Staff are good role models and interact well with children. However, on occasions, staff do not communicate well with each other so they can position themselves effectively to enhance children's learning further. For example, during some quieter activities, staff engage other children in louder activities such as singing, therefore children become distracted.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff keep parents informed about their child's development through various methods, including regular progress reviews, daily feedback and written care routines. In addition, staff organise opportunities for parents to come to the nursery for popular stay-and-play sessions. This helps to promote the continuity of care, learning and development. Parents comment positively about the staff and nursery.
- Staff promote healthy lifestyles. Children use the garden to extend their physical skills. Children enjoy filling jugs to water plants and build their larger muscles as they ride wheeled vehicles and scooters. Staff join children at these activities to develop children's imaginative skills, encouraging them to stop at the red light and go on the green. Children excitedly call out where they are going on their trip.
- The manager regularly monitors practice and provides support to ensure that all staff clearly understand their roles and responsibilities. Staff contribute to their own supervisions and together they identify areas where further training would help them to increase their knowledge as well as how to improve children's experience in the setting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding procedures and a secure understanding of their safeguarding roles. They complete regular training and are clear about the signs and symptoms of abuse. They understand the actions they must take to address any safeguarding concerns, including any allegations about adults working with children. Staff use risk assessments effectively to provide a safe and hygienic environment for children. The nursery has good security and unauthorised persons are not able to enter the building to collect children. Robust recruitment procedures help to ensure that all staff are suitable.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve staff's organisation of themselves to support children more effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382324
Local authority	Newham
Inspection number	10280834
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Jase Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP519294
Telephone number	02033733577
Date of previous inspection	30 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Smarty Pants @ Abbey Lane Children's Centre registered in 2008. It is in the London Borough of Newham. The nursery is open every weekday, from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 12 members of staff, all of whom are suitably qualified. Two members of staff hold early years professional status, others are qualified at level 2 and level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracey Murphy

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 the evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Staff, parents and children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector and the manager carried out joint observations and discussed the learning.
- The inspector sampled documents including paediatric first-aid qualifications and staff suitability.

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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