

Inspection of Little Pebbles Hendon

S K L P C (UK), Community Centre 15a, Wilberforce Road, LONDON NW9 6BA

Inspection date: 17 April 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	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive at this nursery excited to begin their day of play and learning. Staff greet them warmly and welcome parents. Children settle quickly into activities which have been thoughtfully set out to create curiosity and wonder. For example, children enjoy role play with a well-resourced shop that has been created. They make choices with the real fruit and vegetables they will buy, such as strawberries, potatoes, onions and carrots. They laugh as they share their experience with staff, smelling and exploring the produce.

Staff support children in developing their language. For example, children explore the train track as a staff member begins to talk about their play. Children excitedly scurry to find props to extend the story. They extend the play by imagining a fire engine is needed to stop the train being destroyed by a fire. Children show confidence in expressing themselves.

The manager has high expectations for her team and the environment in which children play and learn. Children have access to a good-quality curriculum and develop good communication and language skills to become confident talkers. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), are planned for effectively, based around their interests and engagement. Teaching is good. Children are well behaved and have a good attitude to learning.

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

- The manager works tirelessly to constantly evaluate and improve the nursery. She ensures that she involves staff, parents and other professionals so that all children make good progress. The manager uses regular supervision sessions and staff meetings to target professional development and share good practice. This builds on staff members' strengths and supports building confidence in this skilled workforce.
- The manager and staff develop a curriculum that is well sequenced and individualised for each child. Children are assessed regularly and planned for so they achieve their full potential.
- Staff support the development of language well in this nursery. For example, babies and toddlers enjoy playing peekaboo and will repeat back parts of words they hear. Staff engage babies using soft fabric in varying colours. When staff throw fabric in the air, babies watch as the fabric floats towards them and staff introduce language. Babies and toddlers squeal in delight.
- Children have access to a range of literacy opportunities. For example, during story time, a puppet show using spotlights and shadows was used to explain the story. Children could see the 'beanstalk' and 'ladder' as 'Jack and the Beanstalk' was retold. Children were engaged and concentrated in this alternative

storytelling experience.

- The manager works with a wide range of professionals to ensure that children with SEND receive early intervention and progress well in their development. While waiting for referrals, the nursery has effective intervention groups in place to support children in areas such as listening, attention and communication.
- Children learn about good health practices. They wash their hands after outdoor play and before mealtimes. At mealtimes, they are provided with well-balanced nutritious vegetarian food and drink. Dietary requirements are considered.
- Parent partnership working is strong and parents speak highly about the manager and staff. Parents value the daily updates on their child's day and feel comfortable to share information that may impact their child's day or learning.
- The manager has high expectations for children to participate in a wide range of experiences. This includes providing many opportunities for children to engage in the local community. For example, older children visit a local care home on a regular basis, and younger children take trips to the local shops and garage. This gives children a sense of belonging.
- Children learn about the world around them. They have access to real-life growth experiences through watching and hearing about the caterpillar and chicken life cycles. This also teaches children about risks and challenge as they explore.
- Children learn about numbers and shapes. However, mathematical language is not always used where activities can support the learning. For example, during a water play activity, staff missed opportunities to help children learn about 'sinking' and 'floating' or 'light' and 'heavy'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager ensures that safeguarding in this nursery is effective. Safe recruitment and ongoing suitability checks are in place. This keeps children safe from harm. Staff are aware of their responsibilities and recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse. Where necessary, staff know how to report concerns, and if an allegation is made against a staff member, they know who to refer to. Staff have a good understanding of female genital mutilation, the 'Prevent' duty guidance and county lines. Ongoing risk assessments reduce the likelihood of accidents and staff ensure the environment is clean. This reduces the risk of infection.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- reinforce the use of mathematical language so that children continue to develop the necessary building blocks to excel in early mathematics.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477833
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10249410
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Jessica Khetani and Kanta Hirani Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP530881
Telephone number	020 8621 5539
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2022

Information about this early years setting

Little Pebbles Hendon registered in 2014. It is located in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery is open for 50 weeks of the year from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for Christmas and bank holidays. It provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs nine members of staff, of whom seven are teaching staff who hold appropriate childcare qualifications ranging from level 2 to qualified teacher status. Two staff are unqualified.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqueline Halpin

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector carried out a learning walk together and discussed the curriculum.
- The inspector spoke with parents and staff and took their views into account.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including insurance, paediatric first aid 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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