

Inspection of Little Explorers Nursery

Little Explorers Nursery, Behind St Sebastian and St Pancras Church, Hay Lane,
Kingsbury NW9 0NG

Inspection date: 13 July 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 Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are safe and happy. They have strong bonds with their key person who they will approach for reassurance or comfort. This ensures children feel secure and are ready to learn. On arrival, children are warmly greeted and staff take time to talk with parents. Children explore the environment confidently as they build their independence skills through making choices in their play.

Children build on their physical development. Young children make and play with play dough, using their fingers to knead and roll, building their finger muscles. Older children use balance boards to build their core strength. Staff encourage children to try again when they lose their balance and clap when children persevere and succeed in their achievement. This builds on children's resilience.

Leaders have high expectations for every child, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The curriculum is designed around children's interests and what they need to learn next. For instance, children learn about nature through the 'forest school' garden. They enjoy exploring, using binoculars to investigate spiderwebs and search for spiders and bugs.

Children behave well and have a positive attitude to learning. Staff are good role models who provide structure and have high expectations for every child. This helps children to make good progress in their learning.

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

- The provider has taken all the necessary steps to improve since the last inspection. Staff have undertaken the relevant training and induction of new staff is robust to ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities. The manager undertakes regular supervision meetings for staff where well-being is a focus. This ensures staff feel valued and have a positive approach to their role.
- 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.
- The manager works with a range of professionals to ensure children with SEND receive early intervention and progress well in their development. While waiting for referrals, the nursery ensures targets are set and reviewed regularly to support children to make progress.
- Children learn good health practices. For example, before mealtimes, children wash their hands. Children are reminded to fetch their water bottle when going outside to play, to keep them hydrated. Children pour themselves water or milk from a jug to have with their snack and lunch. Children self-serve their meal which also builds on their independence skills. Healthy snacks and meals are

provided which take account of children's dietary requirements.

- Staff promote children's learning in early mathematics. For example, when young children make play dough, they compare 'light' and 'heavy', 'big' and 'small' bowls of flour to mix. Older children begin to recognise quantities when rolling a dice. Staff encourage children to count during play.
- Children learn about diversity and what makes them unique. For example, home language books are available, so children have a sense of belonging. Children learn about festivals and resources reflect the community around them. Parents are invited to talk to the children about why they celebrate, giving children an understanding of the world.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery and the positive experience they have when settling in their child. Parents appreciate the daily updates on the online progress log. They know what their child is doing each day, which gives them confidence in what their child is learning and how their personal needs are being supported.
- Communication and language is a strong focus throughout the nursery, overall. Staff talk to children as they play and ask them questions. They give children time to respond before extending language to build on their vocabulary. For example, babies and young children sing nursery rhymes and recall key words. Staff sit and share story books which children enjoy listening to. Children, including those who speak English as an additional language, are becoming confident communicators. However, during the lunchtime routine, conversation is not consistently encouraged by staff in this social event, to extend children's skills even further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and staff provide a safe and secure environment for children to play and learn in. They have a good awareness of how to keep children healthy and safe. Staff understand the signs and symptoms of abuse through safeguarding training. Within staff meetings, safeguarding is always on the agenda to keep staff well informed. Where necessary, staff know who they need to report their concerns to. Safe recruitment is followed, and ongoing suitability checks of staff are in place. This ensures that staff remain suitable to work with children. Daily risk assessments of the environment helps to reduce the risk of accidents and incidents.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- be more consistent in how the curriculum for language and communication is implemented within lunchtime routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496651
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	10278228
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	28
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Little Explorers Day Care Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908681
Telephone number	020 8905 0485
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2023

Information about this early years setting

Little Explorers Nursery registered in 2016. It is situated in Kingsbury, in the London Borough of Brent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, all year round, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 12 members of staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqueline Halpin

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together and discussed the curriculum.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke with parents and staff and took account of their views.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documents and held discussions with leaders about nursery practices and procedures.

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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