

Inspection of Castle View Nursery

108 Colthurst Crescent, London N4 2FD

Inspection date:

8 August 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and form very close attachments with their key person. Staff help children to be familiar with the daily routine. Children display a strong sense of belonging at the nursery. Children move around freely to explore and play with the resources accessible to them. For example, they enjoy dressing up in different costumes and use their imaginations during pretend play. Staff encourage children to take part in physical activities, such as riding a tricycle and completing obstacle courses. This helps children to keep active and strengthen their mobility, coordination and balance.

Staff provide plenty of opportunities for children to interact with adults during their play. They support children to develop their speaking and listening skills effectively. Children demonstrate a good understanding and follow simple instructions well. Staff help children to develop their personal, social and emotional skills well. Children learn to wash their hands independently and make healthy choices about the food to eat. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive regular support from the special educational needs coordinator and other professionals to develop their skills. Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour. They support them to manage their feelings and teach them right from wrong. Subsequently, children behave well and treat others respectfully.

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

- Staff observe and assess children's learning effectively. They use this information to plan stimulating activities for children to develop their skills. Children make good progress with their development, helping them move on to the next stage in their learning.
- Staff provide exciting opportunities that promote children's curiosity and support their learning. For instance, children use a spoon to mix ingredients together to make a dough. They then use their hands and imaginations to explore the dough in various ways.
- Staff support children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, they encourage children to answer questions, talk about their experiences and use a wide range of vocabulary.
- Staff provide good opportunities for children to develop their literacy skills. As a result, children develop a keen interest in stories and talk about the images and characters in the books. In addition, children practise making marks, which helps them to develop their writing skills.
- Children demonstrate high levels of confidence and independence. They show an understanding of simple boundaries and consistently display positive behaviour. Children are kind, caring and helpful towards other children. They learn to manage small tasks, make decisions and take turns effectively.

- Staff provide good opportunities for children to develop a healthy lifestyle. For example, children learn about healthy food, and they plant vegetables in the garden. Children develop an awareness of oral health, and they brush their teeth after eating lunch.
- Staff work in close partnerships with parents to help children settle easily and to extend their learning at home. For instance, they carry out a home visit for each child at the start of their placement to help them to form relationships, build trust and gather information.
- Key persons, parents and other professionals work closely to support children with SEND. They adapt activities for them to achieve their targets and make good progress. For example, children with gaps in their speech learn to express themselves well.
- The manager completes regular supervision meetings with staff to review their well-being and practice. Staff recognise their professional development needs, and they complete relevant training to keep their knowledge and skills current.
- The manager considers the views of staff, parents and children when evaluating the nursery. She identifies the key strengths and areas for improvement, and she works with the team to continuously strengthen the nursery.
- Staff know that some children have gaps in their mathematics skills. However, they do not provide consistent opportunities during children's play to encourage them to practise counting and sorting.
- At times, staff plan for children to learn about their own cultures. However, they do not extend opportunities for children to learn about different people living in the local community, such as their roles, religions and cultures.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager has a robust safeguarding policy in place and procedures to ensure that children are safe. Staff complete the required training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid. The recruitment process includes checks to ensure that adults employed are suitable to work with children. The manager completes appropriate risk assessments and puts measures in place to ensure children's ongoing safety. Staff are familiar with the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect, and they are aware that children may be exposed to extreme views. The manager and staff know the procedures for reporting concerns and allegations to the relevant authorities.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make better use of children's play to strengthen their mathematical skills
- increase opportunities for children to learn about the similarities and differences

of people in the local community.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489631
Local authority	Hackney
Inspection number	10280091
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	The Boiler House Community Space
Registered person unique reference number	RP534624
Telephone number	0208 809 1832
Date of previous inspection	9 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Castle View Nursery registered in 2015. This nursery is situated in Hackney, London. The provider employs five members of staff, including the manager. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 5. The nursery opens throughout most of the year, from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. It receives funding to provide early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Martina Mullings

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 manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided to children and discussed with staff the progress that children have made since they started the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager and spoke with children at appropriate times to find out about their experiences at the nursery.
- Relevant documentation was reviewed by the inspector, including evidence of suitability checks, recruitment records and paediatric first-aid certificates.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.

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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