

Inspection of Ferndale Road Day Nursery

Ground Floor, Exbury House, Ferndale Road, London SW9 8AZ

Inspection date: 6 September 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	Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Friendly staff welcome children into the nursery. Staff in the baby room interact gently and offer comfort to babies who are settling in. This supports their personal, social and emotional development and helps them to feel safe and secure. Older children demonstrate a sense of belonging and confidently greet staff and friends. Children are happy and engaged.

The manager has implemented a new simplified curriculum which is working well. Staff know the children and have clear intentions for their learning. Staff communicate well with children and focus on their language development. For instance, they consistently model language and help children to improve their vocabulary by talking to them as they play and adding new words.

Overall, staff cultivate positive relationships with parents, who report being very happy. The manager organises family events, such as a summer party, to encourage this. Parents enjoy the closeness of a small nursery and feel their children are safe and cared for.

All children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, enjoy enrichment activities, such as French and piano lessons, as part of the curriculum. The manager organises regular trips for children out into the community in the nursery minibus. This help children to understand the world around them and develop their social skills.

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

- Children are motivated to try new things and have a go. Key persons design activities for their key children based on their individual needs and to encourage their concentration. Toddlers enjoy scrunching paper and posting it into an empty bottle. Staff help children to problem-solve by discussing shape and size and encourage them to find smaller sizes to fit.
- Some staff engage in research and use their study to benefit children. For instance, staff have focused on making use of the outdoor environment. They bring resources from inside and use them outdoors. Children respond well and thrive by spending more time outside. Confident children climb and make use of the space in the garden. Staff support children who need extra help. They listen to solutions that children have for sharing toys and taking turns. Staff repeat the ideas back to make certain everyone understands, and they praise children for their efforts.
- Parents enjoy updates on the new parenting app. Staff post details about children's routines and photos of activities to inform parents about their child's day. Parents report pleasure at seeing photos of their child and would appreciate

more regular personalised updates. Parents are happy and feel connected with the nursery. They enjoy the consistency of the long-standing room leaders and management. However, staff do not consistently share information with parents about their children's development or how best to support them at home.

- The nursery cook prepares a healthy balanced menu for the children. Staff manage children's allergies well. They help children to learn about hygiene, such as by encouraging children to wash their hands before food, then hands and faces after food. Staff remind children to chew properly and to use good manners. Children sit well, have good appetites and enjoy their food, and older children help to clear away.
- Staff work cohesively. Room leaders communicate well with their team and make instructions clear. New staff are buddied up with more experienced staff to ensure that they understand and adhere to routines and ways of working. This ensures that children benefit from consistency. Staff engage in online training courses, and managers then check their knowledge and understanding with quizzes and questions. Staff have regular one-to-one sessions with managers, and these provide opportunities to discuss their performance and personal development.
- Older children enjoy group time with their friends. They enjoy speaking in small groups about the weather and what effect it has on their bodies. Staff listen and respond to children as they describe drinking water to cool down when it is hot. Toddlers twirl around with coloured ribbons and dance to music with staff. They clap and move around excitedly; staff remind them to be aware of their friends and be careful in the space. This helps to teach children body awareness and how to be safe.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff show a clear understanding of safeguarding and what to do should there be a concern. They know the signs and symptoms of abuse and can answer questions about the 'Prevent' duty. The nursery employs a robust safer recruitment program and checks on the continued suitability of staff. Staff use visual risk assessments and daily opening and closing checks to ensure that the environment is safe for children. Procedures are in place for the management of accidents, incidents and medication.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop communication with parents to ensure that they receive up-to-date information about their child's development and how to support them at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY100846
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10290970
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	28
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Salawa, Natalie Anne
Registered person unique reference number	RP906736
Telephone number	0207 733 9779
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2023

Information about this early years setting

Ferndale Road Day Nursery registered in 2002 and is located in the London Borough of Lambeth. It is open each weekday, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs seven members of staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including the manager. The nursery is in receipt of early education funding for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Zoe Duggan

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 inspector observed the quality of the education being provided across the nursery, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity in the pre-school room with the manager.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector some nursery documents regarding the suitability of staff.

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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