

Inspection of Bright Horizons Balham Day Nursery and Preschool

36 Radbourne Road, Balham, London SW12 0EF

Inspection date: 5 December 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	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are well settled, confident and feel at home at this nursery. Staff build strong relationships with children. Children enjoy cuddles and reassurance from caring staff, which helps them feel secure. Staff teach children to be independent, such as by teaching them to wash their own hands and regulate their emotions. For example, they notice when children have not yet learned to do things for themselves and sensitively offer help to avoid children becoming frustrated. This also helps them understand the expectations for their behaviour.

The manager is ambitious for the children to be ready for school. She plans an ambitious curriculum that helps them build on what they can do. All children make good progress. Staff teach children to take care of their environment and keep themselves safe. Pre-school children help to make safety checks in the garden, such as looking for large puddles and litter that needs clearing, while toddlers enthusiastically help sweep up fallen leaves. Children are curious to explore a range of natural materials, such as wooden blocks, sticks and leaves. They use these to initiate their own games, such as making shapes and patterns, which supports the development of their imaginative skills.

Children learn about the world around them. Staff provide a variety of non-fiction books that help children talk about their experiences and different cultures. Children have opportunities to grow plants in the garden and learn new physical skills, such as yoga poses. These experiences enhance children's knowledge and understanding of the world.

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

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is supported well. Staff give them lots of praise and encouragement, which supports their self-esteem and confidence. Children learn to make choices as they access a range of easily accessible resources throughout the day. This helps them develop their own interests.
- Children learn to be independent. This is evident when pre-school children pour their own milk and water at snack time. They help staff clean up their spills. Toddlers are supported to serve their own lunch and help make their own beds for sleep. Children are supported to carry out self-care tasks, such as washing their hands and using the toilet by themselves. This helps them develop the skills they will need for later life.
- Children have access to a range of books that extend their thinking and give them opportunities to talk about topics such as nature, modes of transport, and different cultures. Children are interested in books. They listen to stories and talk about the pictures. Older children enjoy taking books to share at home. At times,

daily routines such as handwashing disrupt story times, which means children do not learn to listen and attend to stories as much as they could.

- Staff have a good understanding of how to support children's communication and language development. They repeat simple words and phrases so that children hear the correct pronunciation and learn new vocabulary. Toddlers choose the songs they want to sing and join in enthusiastically. Pre-school children enjoy weekly 'show and tell' sessions, which helps them develop confidence to speak to others and share their experiences.
- Staff identify children who have delays in their development. Staff have undertaken appropriate training and use this knowledge to implement strategies that support children's development, such as 'bucket time' to help children learn to play in small groups, build their vocabulary and maintain attention. This means all children make good progress.
- Children are extremely well-behaved. Staff help them resolve issues, such as taking turns with the musical instruments. Children learn to follow simple instructions, such as scraping their plates after meals. They learn to regulate their behaviour well. For example, they wait patiently for their turn.
- Children have positive attitudes to their learning. Staff identify children's interests and use these to engage children in their learning. Children show good levels of concentration and perseverance in their play.
- Leaders and managers have identified individual staff's strengths and weaknesses to put appropriate support in place. Staff say they feel they work well together as a team. Staff talk confidently about the training they have undertaken and the impact this is having on the children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff receive regular child protection training. The manager keeps up to date with local safeguarding concerns. All staff recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know the procedures to follow to report any concerns they have, including reporting allegations against adults working with children. The manager has implemented effective risk assessment procedures, which also involves children learning to identify risks in the environment. Staff describe the precautions they take to minimise choking, such as 'red dot' resources and chopping food. All staff complete Disclosure and Baring Service checks, and most hold paediatric first-aid certificates.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- further develop opportunities for children to develop their listening and attention skills, particularly during story times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY286661
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10303027
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Telephone number	020 3906 6575
Date of previous inspection	31 August 2018

Information about this early years setting

Bright Horizons Balham Day Nursery and Preschool registered in 2004. The nursery is situated in Balham, in the London Borough of Lambeth. The nursery opens each weekday, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks per year and is closed for public bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 14 staff who work directly with the children; of these, nine hold appropriate childcare qualifications from level 2 to level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kyrstie Gennoe

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the nursery.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Several parents shared their views with the inspector in conversation or via a parent questionnaire.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during lunchtime.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023