

# Inspection of Cedar House Day Nursery

South London & Maudsley NHS Trust, Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, De-  
Crespigny Park, London SE5 8AZ

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Inspection date: 9 February 2024

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>
The quality of education	<b>Outstanding</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Outstanding</b>
Personal development	<b>Outstanding</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Outstanding</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is outstanding**

Children at this nursery are incredibly happy, content and well adjusted. Toddlers are always smiling and giggling with excitement as they play. Older children have high-quality interactions and interesting conversations with staff and their friends. Staff are highly skilled and support children in forming exceptionally strong emotional bonds. They have high expectations for children's behaviour and encourage them to treat each other and the environment with kindness and respect. Staff know their key children incredibly well and take care of their individual needs and interests. For instance, toddlers eagerly play with each other in the pasta kitchen, where they mix, fill, empty and stir, and in turn, develop their social and fine motor skills.

Staff plan activities that cover all areas of the curriculum to excite and engage children. They use props and puppets and read stories in an exciting, engaging and expressive way. After hearing a familiar story, children enthusiastically go on a pretend bear hunt in the nursery's garden and discuss various aspects of it, such as if the river was 'shallow' or 'deep'. Older children are highly confident and expressive communicators who use a wide range of vocabulary. Staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) exceptionally well. Senior leaders are proactive in seeking out specialist support and resources to help them to make the best possible progress. All children acquire excellent skills in preparation for their next stage of learning.

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

- Staff have expert knowledge of how to promote children's learning. They provide children with an extensive range of exciting and imaginative activities. Staff are highly effective at monitoring children's development. This ensures that they identify any gaps in children's learning promptly so that outcomes for children are outstanding. Children make high levels of progress in their learning, including children with SEND and those in receipt of additional funding.
- Leaders report that the future of the nursery remains uncertain and challenging. However, since the last inspection, all staff are now aware of the current uncertainty surrounding the nursery's future, which enables them to make informed personal choices. In addition, leaders have taken a proactive approach and reviewed several key policies, including the nursery's safeguarding policy, to ensure that staff always support children's well-being.
- Children develop a deep love of reading through daily opportunities to listen to stories and rhymes. They select books twice a week to take home and eagerly discuss the stories after reading them in their small groups. Toddlers have a wonderful time as they explore chalk, cornflour, small-world and interactive toys. This helps them to build on their natural exploratory impulse and learn

wonderfully through their senses.

- Older children develop exceptional abilities to develop their problem-solving skills. They engage in games that involve matching and talking about colours, words and numbers. Children also create complex models, such as robots and ships, with construction. Children persevere and take time to identify the correct shapes and connectors they need to complete their model.
- Close relationships with their key person help children develop a strong sense of belonging, their emotional well-being and high levels of confidence. This leads to children's exemplary behaviour. For example, children confidently wait their turn in group discussions and readily help their friends to complete tasks.
- Children demonstrate their excellent independence skills as they put on their aprons before messy play, cut up their fruit and serve themselves milk and water. Children also use an excellent range of outdoor equipment and free, safe and open space to promote their physical skills exceptionally well. For example, toddlers push dolls in buggies and thoroughly enjoy games, such as mini-football and netball.
- Parents speak extremely highly of staff and appreciate the detailed information they receive about their child's day. Parents comment that they feel staff at the nursery really love working with their children. They also mention that their children make excellent progress, which they attribute to the excellent teaching provided by staff. Staff make sure that parents are actively involved in their child's learning.
- Leaders are dedicated and highly professional and support staff extremely well. This is evident in the long-standing and committed staff, some of whom have worked at the nursery for over 20 years.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY299642
<b>Local authority</b>	Southwark
<b>Inspection number</b>	10284661
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	1 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	69
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	27
<b>Name of registered person</b>	The South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP911501
<b>Telephone number</b>	0203 228 2580
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 March 2023

## Information about this early years setting

Cedar House Day Nursery is run by the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust. It registered in 2005 and is based within the Maudsley Hospital, located in the London Borough of Southwark. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. It employs 14 members of staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, and 12 of whom hold an early years qualification at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged three and four years.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Rubina Nijabat

## Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the nursery manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The inspector viewed the nursery 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 children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.

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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