

Inspection of South Bank Colleges (Lambeth College) Nursery

Lambeth College: Clapham Centre, 45 Clapham Common South Side, London SW4 9BL

Inspection date: 25 January 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive at this setting and staff go above and beyond to make every child feel welcome and that they truly belong. Staff know all children personally and use this information to prepare bespoke activities and resources for the children which meet their individual needs. Due to the consistently high engagement levels, children make exceptional progress. Children are happy and settled and staff support their personal development through their caring and passionate nature. Staff support all children effectively, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and children in receipt of additional funding. Staff ensure that all children achieve above and beyond their developmental expectations, due to their aspirational curriculum. Children are skilfully equipped for the next stage of their learning.

The manager is inspirational and supports staff attentively, ensuring that all adults are well trained and constantly developing their own knowledge and skills. Staff go above and beyond the expected and provide children with a rich set of experiences that promote an understanding of, and respect for, people, families and communities beyond their own. The wide variety of activities planned by staff strengthen parental engagement and children feel unique and a deep sense of belonging. Partnership with parents is exceptional, as staff care deeply about the whole family. Staff work diligently to support parents, and this develops the children further. Staff are excellent role models, and their high expectations ensure that children behave exceptionally, consistently demonstrating cooperation, positivity and high levels of respect at all times.

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

- Children are celebrated as individuals and staff show compassion for each child. This is evident, as each child has a board which displays their photo, a flag to show which part of the world they come from and 'hello' written in their home language. Nursery staff have learned new languages so they can communicate with the children who speak English as an additional language. This ensures that interactions are of a consistently high quality and staff are excellent role models for the children. Children speak fluently using a wide range of vocabulary, demonstrating confidence and excellent progress in their speaking and listening.
- Children confidently demonstrate their understanding of why rules and routines are in place, led and modelled by all staff. For example, children know to wash their hands before and after eating and can also speak clearly about how to independently look after themselves when going outside in the cold. Children show recognition of the impact their behaviour has on themselves and others.
- The manager provides highly effective professional development, ensuring that staff can constantly build and develop their knowledge and skills. This enables

staff to effectively support all children and provide meaningful and high-quality learning experiences. For example, staff learned about schemas and provided personalised curriculum objectives for each child, based on individual needs, ensuring deep levels of engagement. Staff's firm understanding and delivery of their curriculum intent ensures that all children, including children with SEND, achieve the best possible outcomes.

- Staff regularly assess effectively and plan experiences carefully so that children's learning builds on what they already know and can do. They provide coherent experiences, ensuring that all children reach and exceed their goals.
- Children demonstrate consistently high levels of engagement in their learning and sustain high levels of concentration. Children are deeply engrossed in activities for sustained periods while in the nursery. This means that they are securing strong foundations for future learning.
- Children show consistently high levels of respect for each other and have positive attitudes. They share and cooperate exceptionally well and show politeness and manners in social situations, without the need for prompting.
- Children demonstrate high levels of self-control and they consistently keep trying hard, even if they encounter difficulties. Children show excellent resilience if things do not go as planned. For example, they do not get upset when models they have made break, but instead turn them into something new and move on positively.
- Staff make excellent use of college resources to further develop children's learning and talents. For example, college professionals teach mathematics skills in the nursery role-play area, sports skills in their outside area and are involved in parent conferences, connecting with nursery staff to embed exceptional provision. This allows children, staff and parents to further develop their skills, ensuring greater progress for their children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	144680
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10305001
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	South Bank Colleges (Lambeth College) Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP910925
Telephone number	0207 501 5227
Date of previous inspection	8 February 2018

Information about this early years setting

South Bank Colleges (Lambeth College) Nursery registered in 2000. It is situated in Lambeth College, in Clapham Common. The nursery is open term time only, Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.30pm. There are seven staff members who hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3 or above. The manager has a degree in education. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two and three years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Laurielle Jackson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 their children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they were doing 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 that this was having on the children's learning.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and the children.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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