

Inspection of Ceres Nursery Ltd, Working Mums Daycare & Preschool

Roebuck house, 284-286 Upper Richmond Road West, LONDON SW14 7JE

Inspection date: 25 June 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff, especially those in the baby room, are very nurturing and affectionate. They provide children with plenty of cuddles and encouragement to help them feel safe and secure. This supports children's emotional well-being effectively. All staff reinforce hygiene routines consistently. They are very good at reminding children to wash their hands and explaining the importance of this. Children develop the habit of washing their hands frequently to maintain their health. Additionally, the in-house cook provides children with healthy snacks and meals to promote their growth and development.

Staff hold high expectations for children's learning. They design a curriculum that includes various experiences for children that they may not encounter elsewhere. This includes ballet, yoga, playball and tennis, which develop children's love of physical play. Younger children laugh as they sing and dance along to music, displaying motivation and happiness during these activities. Staff teach children to look after their environment. For example, pre-school children learn to clean the floor using a brush and a dustpan. Children gain self-care and independence skills. Staff model positive behaviour and encourage children to do the same. Children behave well and show strong social confidence, which helps them interact positively with others.

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

- The manager is ambitious for the nursery. She completes a thorough evaluation of their practice to identify its strengths and areas for further development. For example, the manager is keen to enhance the outdoor space, particularly the growing area, to extend children's opportunities to learn.
- Staff build strong parent partnerships, which have a positive impact on children's learning. They make good efforts to invite parents into the nursery to celebrate cultural events, such as Mother's Day and Father's Day. This helps children learn about diversity within families. Parents speak highly of staff who communicate with them regularly about their children's learning. They praise staff for creating a safe and clean environment that supports their children's individual needs.
- Partnerships with teachers in the local schools and outside agencies are equally strong. The sharing of information between staff and other professionals provides consistency for children's learning. This benefits children who are in the care of other professionals and those transitioning to school.
- Staff observe and assess children's learning regularly to ensure that the curriculum is rich and interesting. This helps children make significant progress in their learning, including those at risk of falling behind, especially in terms of their personal and physical skills. Children gain confidence in handling tasks and challenges appropriate for their age because staff support them effectively.

- Staff teach children to play collaboratively. Children demonstrate good behaviour as they listen and follow instructions well from staff. Staff encourage children to express themselves. However, they do not always explore or check children's understanding of their feelings. This does not fully support children's early emotional literacy.
- Staff feel well-supported by the manager and attend mandatory training in safeguarding and first aid to protect children's welfare. Those who work with younger children have improved their knowledge of supporting non-mobile babies, leading to positive impacts on their physical skills. Some staff, especially pre-school staff, are less effective when engaging with children, specifically during busy periods. This affects children's otherwise positive experiences at nursery.
- The manager works diligently to ensure a high level of support for children's health. She collaborates with staff to actively participate in the 'Healthy Early Years London' scheme. Their strong efforts have been recognised with an award for their dedication to children's health. This promotes children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle, including oral hygiene, from a young age.
- Children develop their communication and language skills well. They have plenty of opportunities to sing, listen to stories and play imaginatively. For example, during role play, children enjoy dressing up as 'doctors' and 'vets'. Staff join in to facilitate children's play and engage them in conversation, such as about healthy eating. This helps to extend children's vocabulary, especially for those who are bilingual learners.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue teaching children the language of feelings and regularly assess their comprehension to reinforce their learning
- strengthen the monitoring and supervision of staff to ensure that they all have high-quality engagement with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432978
Local authority	Richmond Upon Thames
Inspection number	10351489
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	105
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	Ceres Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906908
Telephone number	020 8392 8522
Date of previous inspection	13 September 2018

Information about this early years setting

Ceres Nursery Ltd, Working Mums Daycare & Preschool registered in 2011 and it is located in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round, except on bank holidays and for one week over Christmas. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 12 staff members, including the manager, who holds a childcare qualification at level 3. There are 10 staff members who hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 to level 5.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The manager and the inspector discussed how staff organise their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their curriculum. They observed an activity and evaluated it together.
- The inspector observed the quality of education, inside and outside, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector in person, on the telephone, and in written feedback, all of which were taken into account.
- The manager provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request, such as staff's suitability and training records.
- The inspector spoke with staff and engaged with children at appropriate times during the inspection.

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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