

The Kentish Town Day Nursery & Pre-School

37 Ryland Road, London, NW5 3EH



Inspection date

31 August 2016

Previous inspection date

14 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager is highly dedicated in making further improvements. She carefully reflects on and evaluates all aspects of the provision, and accurately identifies areas for improvement. These are acted upon swiftly to maintain the high-quality provision, which continues to improve.
- Staff know their key children extremely well and have clear plans for progressing their development to the next stage. They ensure children's interests are at the centre of their planning. Staff continuously engage and motivate children to help them learn.
- Staff cater for children's emotional needs through a highly effective key-person system. Children form close bonds with attentive and caring staff who take full account of their individual needs. New children settle quickly, and children are secure, happy and confident. Babies benefit from exceptionally nurturing and responsive care.
- Staff establish excellent partnerships with parents. They engage parents in a variety of ways to ensure they are fully involved in increasing their children's learning potential. Parents speak extremely highly of the quality of care and learning their children receive. They feel well informed and their views are valued.
- There is a strong focus on supporting children's language development throughout the setting. Children who have English as an additional language receive exceptional support to develop skills required to progress and be ready for their future learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of learning opportunities to challenge children's emerging thinking skills, to enhance their level of understanding to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's learning experiences and routine activities, such as snack and lunch times, and assessed the impact of staff interaction on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and other staff, and spoke to the children.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views of the setting.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector sampled various documents, including children's progress records, staff suitability checks and policies.

Inspector

Hiroka Dathan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff show a thorough understanding of how to keep children safe. They understand the importance of confidentiality and how to respond to allegations, such as those made against another member of staff. The manager plans for ongoing improvement, while sharply focusing on improving outcomes for children. The management team monitors children's progress and staff performance rigorously, to ensure high-quality teaching and learning. They fully support staff in their professional development. Staff use their training highly effectively, sharing good practice and finding ways to improve further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The well-qualified and enthusiastic staff plan carefully for the children's next steps in learning. They offer exciting activities based on the children's interests and support their learning in wide-ranging ways. Babies benefit from a highly individualised learning experience. For example, key persons take care to prepare baskets for each child, full of interesting objects for them to explore and develop their senses. Overall, children receive high-quality interactions from staff, although opportunities to expand and challenge older children's thinking skills fully at times are still developing. Children who are learning to speak English as an additional language rapidly develop excellent communication skills in English from their starting point. Staff highly value all children's home languages and cultural backgrounds, and children learn to respect each other's differences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave excellently. Staff speak to children sensitively to encourage consistently good behaviour. Children listen to others, take turns and share resources willingly. Children develop high levels of independence. They keenly take on responsibilities and confidently carry out tasks using their own initiative. For example, they set tables for lunch with minimal staff support. Staff provide plenty of opportunities for children to take risks, while challenging their skills and teaching them to manage their own personal safety. For example, children learn to use knives safely and cut vegetables. Staff place a high priority on providing a clean and hygienic environment for children and support a healthy diet. For example, they offer highly nutritious and varied meals, and engage children in food preparation and conversations about healthy eating.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their starting points. Babies develop their communication and physical skills rapidly through consistent encouragement and quality support. Older children develop skills that prepare them well for their future learning. For example, they demonstrate exceptional early writing skills, such as drawing detailed pictures and writing their own names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY232072
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	1061657
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	Bringing Up Baby Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP519313
Date of previous inspection	14 October 2013
Telephone number	020 7284 3600

The Kentish Town Day Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2003. The nursery is located in Kentish Town, in the London Borough of Camden. The nursery is open weekdays from 8am to 6.15pm, and operates throughout the year, except for bank holidays. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. The provider currently employs 14 staff, 11 of whom hold early years qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 6.

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