

Alphabet Lanes Nursery & Pre School

St. Lukes's Chambers, Knights Hill, LONDON, SE27 0HS



Inspection date	11 April 2018
Previous inspection date	13 October 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- This nursery has a strong community feel. Staff get to know children and their families well. This creates a home from home atmosphere in which children are safe and well cared for.
- Managers have organised a wide range of training for staff and worked tirelessly to make improvements to the quality of the provision.
- Children feel valued as staff are particularly skilled at praising their efforts and achievements, which supports children's self-esteem and confidence.
- The clean, safe well organised areas inside and outside offer children a wide range of choices, which enable them to learn as they play and explore.
- Parents are extremely positive about the nursery and talk about the exceptional care staff provide and how well their children progress in readiness for starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are times when some staff do not make full use of opportunities to develop children's interest in mathematical concepts.
- The arrangements in place to review the progress made by groups of children are in their infancy and do not yet present a full view of potential gaps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the quality of teaching by making good use of everyday opportunities to encourage children's interest in mathematics
- refine the arrangements to assess the progress made across groups of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the nursery manager who is the registered provider.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the registered provider.
- The inspector sampled planning and assessment records and a range of other documents.

Inspector

Linda du Preez

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers have provided extensive training for staff so that they are clear about their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. There are comprehensive arrangements in place so that all staff receive support and guidance through regular meetings as a team and as individuals. Consequently the strong, hardworking team are motivated practitioners. Staff have a clear picture of the progress of individual children. Managers are developing systems to track the progress of groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage the development of children's communication and language skills very well. They talk to children and ask interesting questions to challenge and extend their thinking. Consequently, children learn new words, share their ideas and communicate confidently. However, there are occasions when some staff miss opportunities to develop children's mathematical thinking. Children attending the setting come from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures. Staff appropriately place a great deal of value on children's home languages. Therefore, all families feel valued and all children make good progress in their spoken English. Furthermore, children learn to respect and value one another and learn about the range of cultures and languages within their community.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Babies are very attached to the staff who care for them and the staff clearly know the children well. For example, some babies fall asleep securely in the arms of staff who support them with care and affection. Children are extremely well behaved and very caring. They listen to one another's ideas and thoughts and collaborate well. Staff support children's social skills by encouraging turn taking from an early age and praising them when they are kind to one another. This good quality of teaching helps children to develop valuable social skills for their future lives. Children enjoy freshly prepared, healthy snacks and meals which supports their health and wellbeing. They help to tidy up and learn to care for their environment. Staff teach children about their own safety, for example, they talk to children about road safety and keeping areas safe and clean.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and friendly across all age groups as they feel settled and secure. Babies play and explore, but crawl back to their key person when they need a cuddle or some reassurance. Older children share their ideas and thoughts and develop active imaginations. For example they work together as a team to build a pretend bus using chairs and other resources. They take it in turns deciding where they would like to visit and talk about needing a ticket for the journey. Children enjoy playing outside as they get fresh air and exercise. They learn about the natural world around them. For example, they grow fruit and vegetables and delight in finding worms. Staff use relevant information to observe and assess and plan for children's learning. Consequently, all children are supported to make sustained progress in readiness for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY454218
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	1134206
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Alphabet Lanes Nursery & Pre-school Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP532016
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2017
Telephone number	02086703100

Alphabet Lanes Nursery & Pre School registered in 2012. It is one of two settings owned by the same provider. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6pm from Monday to Friday throughout the year. There are 10 members of staff, eight of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications. Of these, the provider holds early years professional status, three staff hold qualifications at level 3 and two hold qualifications at level 2. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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