

Hopes & Dreams Montessori Nursery School

339-341 City Road, Islington, London, EC1V 1LJ



Inspection date 24 July 2015
Previous inspection date 24 July 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team sharply focus on staff's interactions and quality of teaching with the children. They have high levels of organisational skills; this results in the skilful running of the nursery.
- Children make excellent progress in their development. This is because the quality of teaching is exceptional. Staff use every opportunity to develop children's knowledge through purposeful discussions and precisely planning activities with clear learning intentions.
- Children learn at a very young age about being respectful, thus showing concern for others and managing their own feelings. Therefore, children's behaviour is exceptional.
- Staff implement an effective system to accurately assess children's learning and records clearly show children are making exceptional progress.
- The nursery environment is exciting, inspiring and exceptionally organised to provide extensive opportunities for children to be independent. Therefore, children are extremely confident and prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- Staff fully value partnerships with parents, and parents themselves speak highly of the staff and their work with their children. Overall, staff know children and the families well and meet their care needs very successfully.
- The manager closely monitors staff performance and provides regularly support through supervision and ongoing training opportunities. Staff have attended training on supporting young children's language needs. As a result, they have reflected on and improved their interactions with children further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend and build on children's vocabulary to give them greater opportunities to learn a range of extensive words and their meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching in all playrooms and the outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's records, planning documentation, policies and procedures.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team with regards to the monitoring of teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke with some children, staff and parents, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lisa Paisley

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children are motivated and extensively engaged in their play. This is because staff plan exceptionally well for children's learning. For example, two-year-old children enjoyed exploring textures, colours and patterns, while taking part in a finger painting activity. Staff skilfully build on children's knowledge and language skills through talking about stories they know and using descriptive words. Although, occasionally, some staff miss opportunities to fully extend children's vocabulary. Staff plan exceptionally well for all ages of children's development. For example, older children use their imaginations while completing a floor puzzle and staff provide one-to-one attention as they teach them to recognise letters and their sounds. Younger children enjoy physical play and staff closely supervise babies when using the soft play equipment. Overall, babies are eager and enthusiastic to explore. They enjoy climbing, standing and jumping, effectively developing their large motor skills.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Staff promote children's independence at a young age, particularly through daily routines and activities. For example, older children independently serve their own lunch and help staff to tidy away. Additionally, younger children confidently pour their own drinks and help themselves to snacks. There is a strong emphasis by staff in promoting healthy lifestyles and children's awareness of safety. For example, children benefit from cooked meals, which are prepared onsite using fresh ingredients. Older children have extensive opportunities to learn about road safety through extremely well-planned activities. Furthermore, children know how to safely use scooters and discussions with staff help develop their knowledge of safety.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

Leaders have an excellent knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. The manager uses her qualifications most effectively, and works constantly to ensure all staff achieve and maintain high standards. Recruitment and induction procedures are vigorous. The manager implements robust induction procedures for new staff. Therefore, staff have an excellent knowledge of their roles and rigorously follow the setting's procedures. The manager maintains exceptional high standards of care, play and learning. She closely monitors children's progress to identify and address their learning and care individual needs. This enables her to develop action plans to improve the already excellent provision. Staff work extremely well together to evaluate the provision and make improvements, where necessary. Excellent partnerships with outside professionals have helped the manager to monitor the setting and strengthen the process of evaluation further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131700
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	984969
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	123
Number of children on roll	158
Name of provider	Hopes And Dreams (City) Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 July 2012
Telephone number	020 7833 9388

Hopes & Dreams Montessori Nursery School registered in 1997. It is located in the London Borough of Islington. The provider employs 27 members of childcare staff. Of these, all staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including two with Early Years Professional Status and/or Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8am until 7pm. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four years.

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