

City and Islington College Lifelong Learning Nursery

28-42 Blackstock Road, London, N4 2DG



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| Inspection date | 13 March 2017 |
| Previous inspection date | 6 January 2015 |

| 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

- Children make rapid progress from their starting points. Leaders have detailed and robust systems for monitoring children's development over time. Any gaps in learning are identified quickly and children who need additional help, are supported remarkably well.
- Leaders are highly committed, experienced and passionate about providing the best quality of care. They are reflective and have an accurate understanding of how to plan for future development. Leaders have successfully met recommendations set at the last inspection and have used systems for self-evaluation to raise the quality of the nursery significantly, seamlessly including the views of others.
- Children are happy, confident and motivated to share their ideas. They show a true thirst for learning and staff support children to gain excellent independent skills.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Staff know families well and support a strong connection between home and the nursery. Staff regularly share information with parents about children's experiences at nursery and gain information about their achievements at home, to ensure consistency in children's care and learning.
- Staff ensure the learning environment is vibrant and inviting. Children have independent access to a large variety of resources that engage them in play and learning. For example, children use a touch screen computer to develop their technology skills, understanding of the world and of how things work.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider even more opportunities to help children express their creativity, to ensure they continue to make excellent progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views and experiences of the setting.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the provider.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the children's learning records, staff observations and planning, and a range of policies and documentation, such as suitability of staff and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Shana Laffy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders provide an outstanding quality of care and learning. They value the importance of employing experienced staff to raise the outcomes for children who attend and have thorough vetting procedures in place. Leaders offer excellent opportunities for staff to continually access professional development and staff have ownership of this process. For example, staff help to plan their own training needs, through rigorous supervisions and all staff report they feel valued. Leaders form highly effective partnerships with other professionals and work in a collaborative way to help children reach their full potential. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders ensure staff are up to date with current safeguarding issues, know who to contact in the event of a concern and follow policies meticulously.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is dynamic and tailored to meet children's individual needs. For example, staff plan excellent differentiation during activities, which takes account of children's various ages and stages of development. This supports their next steps in learning. Children take part in a range of interesting activities both inside and outside. For example, children make bees with paint and then use their knowledge to hunt for mini beasts outside in the garden. Staff model language exceptionally well for children and help to develop their speech, thinking and understanding. For example, staff are enthusiastic and engage children in carefully led adult singing sessions, where children learn complex actions to familiar rhymes. On occasion, staff miss opportunities to encourage children to make choices about their use of materials to enhance their creative development even further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children feel safe and secure and thrive in this nurturing and friendly nursery. The key-person system sensitively supports new children to settle, and children form strong bonds with staff. Children behave well at all times and are kind to each other. For example, older children have a mature understanding about why it is important to share the resources. Children with special educational needs are supported remarkably well and all staff are aware of children's preferences and interests. The environment is safe. Staff use detailed risk assessment to minimise hazards and support children to recognise dangers. Staff help children to understand about living a healthy lifestyle. For example, they have regular visits from the dentist to teach children about caring for their teeth.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children become skilled problem solvers and develop an understanding of how things work. Older children develop a keen interest in early mathematics and writing. Younger children develop their physical skills and use their senses to explore their environment with curiosity. Children make rapid progress and are remarkably well prepared for school.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY277242 |
| Local authority | Islington |
| Inspection number | 1085810 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| Age range of children | 1 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 20 |
| Number of children on roll | 52 |
| Name of registered person | City and Islington College |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP905958 |
| Date of previous inspection | 6 January 2015 |
| Telephone number | 0207 704 7292 |

City and Islington College Lifelong Learning Nursery registered in April 2004. It is situated in the London Borough of Islington. It operates Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5.20pm, during term-time only. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. The nursery employs seven members of staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications and one has achieved early years professional status.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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