

# Inspection of Head Start Day Nursery

54 Station Road, New Barnet, Barnet, Hertfordshire EN5 1QG

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Inspection date: 23 October 2019

**Overall effectiveness** **Good**

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The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Outstanding**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Good

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Children benefit from secure and trusting bonds with staff. They settle readily, make friends and play together in harmony. Children display a high level of curiosity. They develop a very good sense of belonging and community. Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff know how children learn and develop through play. They support and track the progress of individual children well. Staff help to prepare children well for the next stages of their learning and development, including starting school. Staff are sensitive to the needs of babies, who babble and squeal happily and learn to explore toys safely. Children are very eager to explore the natural world around them. For example, they use magnifying glasses and learn to investigate living things. Staff introduce books excitingly to children and discuss the pictures and stories. Staff are attentive to children's health. For example, they explain the importance of handwashing to remove germs. The outdoor provision has been reorganised to support children's learning and they enjoy the outdoor play and fresh air.

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

- Staff gather relevant information from parents to establish what their children know and can do when they join the setting. They use this information, along with their ongoing observations, to provide stimulating activities that enthuse children to learn. Staff play with the children and help them learn how to use certain resources safely.
- Children relate very well to each other and use their imagination well. For example, younger children love to explore fresh vegetables and learn about their colours. Older children are highly confident to talk about resources they can use to build their favourite models. They know letters and sounds and can write their names correctly. However, although staff help children to be familiar with simple shapes, they do not fully extend their mathematical and problem-solving skills.
- Staff are excellent role models for the children. For example, they talk to children in a calm and respectful manner. They provide very strong support for their social and emotional development. Children learn to share toys fairly, take turns and respect the feelings of others. They are increasingly independent and self-assured, as demonstrated by older children as they offer a helping hand to the younger ones. Staff are caring and help children to learn about their own cultures and the different people around them. This helps children to be tolerant of others and to understand that they are unique. Overall, children display very positive attitudes to learning.
- Staff encourage children to eat healthily and are careful to meet their dietary requirements. Children know the importance of drinking plenty of water. Babies love to eat alongside others and learn to socialise well. The physical skills of younger children are developed well. For example, they love to push wheeled

toys and are learning to manage space around them. However, occasionally, older children do not receive enough challenging opportunities to help them extend their physical skills.

- Staff form effective partnerships with parents. They work closely together to provide consistent care and support for children. Parents are positive about the good progress their children make. They comment on how their children become used to the daily routines and look forward to coming to the nursery.
- Staff work closely with providers and outside professionals to ensure good continuity of learning and progression for children.
- Managers support staff well and are alert to any workload issues. They supervise staff well and offer them specific feedback to help them widen their skills. Staff attend courses and use the knowledge gained to benefit children's learning. They appreciate the good support they receive from the managers, including help with securing qualifications.
- Managers and staff seek comments and suggestions from parents and others. This helps them to reflect on their practice effectively and make adjustments that help to develop their good service.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and managers undertake robust recruitment checks on all staff to ensure that they are suitable to work with the children. Managers help staff to become familiar with the induction processes. Staff receive regular professional support and training. They have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding matters and are clear about the recording and reporting procedures to protect children in their care. Managers share their safeguarding policies with parents to help keep children safe. Staff supervise children well to ensure their health and safety. They conduct regular checks on the premises and resources to help children remain safe and secure.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- provide more challenging activities to extend children's mathematical and problem-solving skills
- offer more challenging activities that fully support and develop older children's physical skills.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY217518
<b>Local authority</b>	Barnet
<b>Inspection number</b>	10061393
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	52
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	63
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Head Start (Enfield) Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP902554
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8441 6728
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 January 2016

## Information about this early years setting

Head Start Day Nursery registered in 2002. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff, 20 of whom hold early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Fatiha Maitland

### Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk of the nursery to understand how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector spoke to some members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the leadership team.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed parents' written comments and suggestions.
- The inspector looked at the nursery's policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

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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