

Active Learning Finchley Nursery

Moss Hall Hotel, 10-11 Moss Hall Crescent, London N12 8NY



Inspection date	7 March 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

- The new manager and her deputy are ambitious for the nursery. Staff speak positively about the support they give. Staff are provided with regular supervision in order to identify their strengths and areas for improvement. They have access to an extensive range of training opportunities to improve the quality of their interactions with children.
- There are rigorous systems in place to ensure that children are safe and secure. Staff monitor children well and are effectively deployed throughout the nursery. Children learn how to keep themselves safe and are well supported to understand about risks, for example when walking down the stairs or using scissors.
- Staff understand how children learn and use this, alongside their good knowledge of children's interests, to plan enjoyable and exciting activities. For example, older children plant sunflower seeds and younger children join in with an engaging music session.
- Children are well behaved, friendly and chatty. They are beginning to develop an understanding of boundaries and behavioural expectations. Staff are positive role models who help children learn how to cooperate with each other, share and take turns.
- All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points.
- Members of the management team identify and address areas for development. They make ongoing improvements to enrich children's learning experiences. However, a more rigorous evaluation of the impact of changes made would lead to a greater impact for children.
- At times, children are left waiting between activities, and opportunities for learning are missed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on self-evaluation of the nursery so that the outcomes lead to actions that impact on children's learning
- strengthen transitions between activities to maximise children's opportunities for learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection, and took account of any written views.

Inspector

Anna Hindhaugh-Feldman

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff confidently explain their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. They are aware of the wider issues around safeguarding and know how to report any concerns. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. New staff complete a thorough induction process to ensure that they understand their role. Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are positive about the quality of teaching and the care their children receive. They state that their children enjoy coming to nursery, and they can see them make progress in their learning. The manager and staff use effective systems to check children's progress and identify gaps in their learning. They gather useful information from parents when children start at the nursery to establish their starting points.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Monitoring and assessment are effective. Any gaps in learning are swiftly identified and managers put plans in place to support children's learning. Staff liaise regularly with parents and other professionals to provide a consistent approach to supporting children's specific needs. Children's literacy and mathematical skills are well promoted. They listen to stories with enthusiasm and practise their mark-making skills, and older children learn to write their names and recognise letters and the sounds they represent. Children count with staff and talk about shapes and sizes. Additional activities, such as music and sport, are incorporated well into daily routines and skilfully extend children's learning and development. Babies and toddlers enjoy sensory activities, such as sand play. Older children use their imagination and creativity in the role-play cafe.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have plenty of opportunities to play outside and get fresh air and exercise. They play confidently in the garden each day, building their physical skills. For example, they balance on beams, ride tricycles and play with hula hoops. Children show high levels of independence and develop good self-care skills. Staff encourage them to complete tasks for themselves, for example at lunchtimes and when using the bathroom. Good hygiene routines are promoted well throughout the nursery.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn key skills in readiness for their move on to the next stage of their learning and, eventually, school. They are enthusiastic and motivated learners. For example, during music class, children are excited to get musical instruments, such as shakers and claves. Children are growing in confidence; they ask questions and seek help if they need it. Babies explore their immediate environment with enthusiasm, demonstrating that they feel safe and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY542730
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10090081
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	106
Number of children on roll	144
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	020 3031 9096

Active Learning Finchley Nursery re-registered in 2017 and is based in North Finchley, in the London Borough of Barnet. It is open weekdays from 7.30am until 6.30pm, all year round. The nursery employs 36 childcare staff, 22 of whom hold an early years qualification at level 2 or above. The nursery accepts funding for children aged two, three and four years.

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