

Inspection of Bright Horizons Finchley Central Day Nursery and Preschool

4 Shakespeare Road, LONDON N3 1XE

Inspection date: 31 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are extremely well cared for in this secure and welcoming nursery environment, where staff know them very well. Staff celebrate children's individuality and, as a result, children throughout the nursery are very happy, settled and confident. They enjoy their time at nursery, making good relationships with staff and their peers. Older children delight in inviting their friends into their play, explaining how to take turns and share resources. Younger children are eager to join in with games with their familiar adults and seek them out for comfort when needed.

Staff set high expectations for children's behaviour and children are aware of the rules and boundaries within the nursery. Babies learn to take turns as they post shapes into a sorting box. Toddlers engage in a singing session in the garden and staff model what it means to take turns. Older children wait their turn patiently to use a steel tongue drum. They clap and praise their friends for the sounds they make. Children of all ages are polite and show enthusiasm towards helping each other. Toddlers delight in putting out cutlery for their peers before they arrive for their lunch.

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

- The new manager has a clear vision for the nursery. She tailors staff training to the needs of each staff member and recognises them for their individual talents. Staff bring their own unique strengths to the planning of activities within the nursery. They ensure that they gather essential information from parents and know exactly how to help children to learn and develop.
- Children have an abundance of opportunities to explore the outdoors. They go on trips out into the community, shopping for baking ingredients and taking trips to the local theatre. Within the nursery, children have constant access to their own designated garden areas where they develop their physical skills. Older children predict the number of wheels on their vehicles before counting them. They also predict how quickly water will flow down guttering as they pour. Toddlers climb and balance on steps and climbing equipment, taking well-supervised risks. However, staff do not plan the environment well enough to enable all children to be challenged equally.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are extremely well supported. Staff use key words in children's spoken language to help them settle into nursery life. They work closely with parents and families to ensure that the needs of all children are met. Staff members use sign language with children and show them visual props to support them as they learn to speak English. Babies respond with smiles as staff speak in their home languages to support them. As a result, children feel confident and valued in the nursery.

- Staff teach children new words during play. Older children make play dough potions and add their own herbs. Staff introduce words like 'coriander' and 'cilantro'. Younger children learn the names of body parts when singing 'heads, shoulders, knees and toes' during song time. However, sometimes, through the enthusiasm that staff have, they do not allow children time to respond to their questions. At these times, children do not receive the best possible support to develop their ideas and recall what they already know.
- Staff promote children's independence successfully. They encourage children to 'have a go', giving them plenty of time to succeed before stepping in to help. Children are learning beneficial self-help skills. For example, babies are given opportunities to select their own equipment for breakfast and help to make their own breakfast. Older children put on their own coats and wellington boots before going into the garden.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Parents receive regular updates about children's daily activities and their key achievements. Staff ensure that parents and families are involved in their children's learning through home learning initiatives. Parents commend the nursery on the high levels of communication and comment that their children are making good progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff, including the designated safeguarding leads, have a good awareness of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children. Staff access a wealth of targeted training that helps to develop a broad knowledge of safeguarding matters. Robust recruitment arrangements help to ensure that staff are suitable to carry out their roles and remain suitable. Temporary staff have a full induction so that they understand how to perform within the nursery. Staff encourage children to take risks and to think about how they can keep themselves safe. For example, older children go into the community and learn about road safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- refine the planning for the outdoor area to provide all children with the same rich experiences for learning
- support staff to strengthen their interactions with children and allow them more time to respond to questions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430234
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10263904
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	84
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	Magic Daycare Nursery (Finchley) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP909982
Telephone number	020 3657 0377
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

Bright Horizons Finchley Central Day Nursery and Preschool registered in 2011. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 19 members of staff. The majority of staff hold relevant qualifications at levels 2, 3, or 6. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Clarkson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The nursery manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- A joint observation of an activity was carried out with the inspector and the nursery manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The nursery manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke with the nursery manager about the leadership and management of the setting.

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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