

Beckett House Nursery

98 Richmond Avenue, Islington, London, N1 0LL



Inspection date

5 May 2015

Previous inspection date

26 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff have good teaching skills. They enthusiastically engage children in purposeful play and consequently children make good progress from their starting points and are ready for their next stage of learning.
- Children are eager and motivated to learn, and they enjoy experiencing activities across all areas of learning.
- Children are happy and have good relationships with staff, including their key person. This promotes their confidence and emotional well-being.
- Staff develop effective partnerships with parents. They share relevant information with parents about their children's progress, which supports their learning at home and in the nursery.
- Staff work closely with other professionals, such as speech and language therapists, in order to support children with additional needs to make progress.
- The management team implements good processes of self-evaluation and provides ongoing training for staff, which helps to drive continuous improvements that benefit children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always promote children's independence and self-care skills, particularly during lunchtime routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to increase their self-care and independence skills during everyday routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises, and observed and talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, planning documents, policies and procedures, as well as evidence of the qualifications and suitability of all staff.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the headteacher.
- The inspector accompanied staff and children to a nearby square where the children played outside.
- The inspector spoke with parents and carers, and took their views into account.

Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

Inspection findings

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

Staff gather information from parents and assess children's abilities and strengths on entry. They offer children interesting and challenging experiences across all areas of learning. Staff continue to monitor children's progress and plan activities to meet their individual needs. For example, older children are supported to spell out simple words with wooden letters, while younger children explore a box of objects which begin with the same letter of the alphabet. Staff ensure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities benefit from tailored support. For example, they use sign language to promote their communication skills. As a result, all children make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children enjoy discussing how dinosaurs became extinct. Staff ask questions and encourage them to share their ideas in order to extend their language development and thinking skills. This means that they are increasingly curious and eager to learn.

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

Children are happy and settle quickly. They gain confidence and self-esteem because staff form positive relationships with them so they feel safe and secure. Children's behaviour is good because staff are clear about their expectations and explain about the consequences of their actions, for example, what could happen if they throw sand. Staff make good use of the outdoor space and take children on regular outings to local parks and public squares, so they can engage in physical activity in the fresh air. Staff ensure children learn to manage their own personal care needs, for example, through good hygiene routines such as hand washing. However, not all staff support children's growing independence at mealtimes, for example, children are not always able to cut their own fruit or serve their own food. Staff talk to children about what to expect when they start school. They contact local schools to arrange visits to further support children to prepare for the transfer.

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

The management team has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. All staff complete safeguarding training; they recognise the signs that may raise cause for concern and know how to report these. Staff are well qualified and attend regular training and conferences to keep their knowledge up to date. Management provides regular staff supervision, which means they are able to quickly identify and address any weaknesses in staff practice. There is a strong focus on self-evaluation. Parents provide feedback via questionnaires, which helps staff to recognise areas for development, such as improving communication. Parents report they are happy with the information they receive about their children's development, in particular the introduction of a diary book which is shared between the nursery and home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131668
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	840869
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Beckett House Limited
Date of previous inspection	26 March 2012
Telephone number	020 7278-8824

Beckett House Nursery registered in 1996. It is situated in the London Borough of Islington. The nursery is open each weekday from 8.30am to 5.30pm, for 46 weeks of the year. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three- and four-years-old. The provider employs six members of staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including three members of staff with relevant qualifications at Level 6. The nursery follows Montessori teaching methods.

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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