

# Mars Montessori Bilingual Nursery

4 Collins Yard, London, N1 2XU



## Inspection date

29 July 2015

Previous inspection date

31 October 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff have good teaching skills and a clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They enthusiastically engage children in purposeful play and consequently, children make good progress.
- Staff build strong, caring relationships with children, which means children are happy, settled and ready to learn.
- Staff encourage children to be independent. Therefore, children are developing high levels of confidence and displaying good social, physical and communication skills.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are strong and effective. This contributes to successful information sharing, and working together to promote continuity of care and learning for all children.
- Staff support children with special educational needs by working in partnership with other professionals to ensure all children make progress, relative to their starting points on entry.
- Leaders and staff have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and how to effectively safeguard children. The manager implements robust recruitment procedures and ensures the suitability of all staff prior to working with children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not give sufficient time for children to consider and formulate their response to questions before providing the answer. This slightly hinders children's opportunities to freely express their views and ideas.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children sufficient time to respond to questions in order to further develop their communication and thinking skills.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outdoor area, and accompanied staff, children and parents on an outing.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, planning documents, policies and procedures, as well as evidence relating to staff qualifications and suitability.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the acting manager.
- The inspector had discussions with the provider and acting manager of the nursery.
- 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 observe and assess children's abilities and strengths on entry to the setting. They continue to take note of children's new achievements and interests to help plan for their next steps in learning. Therefore, staff offer children good learning experiences to meet their developmental needs and ensure they make good progress. Staff display all resources at a low level, making it easy for children to make independent choices. This means that children are confident to explore. During the inspection, children visited an aquarium to develop their knowledge of nature and the wider world. They enthusiastically discussed how many eyes a starfish has compared with them. Staff skilfully asked questions and overall encouraged children to talk and share their ideas, to extend their language development and thinking skills.

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

Children show a strong sense of belonging as they happily interact with visitors and with one another. Staff are positive role models and help children learn about turn taking and sharing. They use effective ways to manage children's behaviour. Staff encourage children to manage their own personal hygiene and care needs well. Consequently, children help themselves to a range of healthy food and drink at meal times, and confidently wash their own hands. Staff teach children about how to keep themselves safe, for example, by not talking to strangers during outings. Children benefit from outdoor activities on a daily basis where they can enjoy physical exercise and fresh air. Staff talk to older children about their move to primary school. They organise an end-of-year show to mark the occasion to help prepare children emotionally for this change.

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

Managers demonstrate a strong commitment to continually improving the quality of the provision and improve the learning and development outcomes for all children. There is a strong focus on self-evaluation within the nursery. Parents provide feedback via regular questionnaires, which staff use to help identify areas for development. Management implement effective supervision procedures to support staff in developing their teaching skills. Additionally, staff have access to relevant training to further strengthen their skills and extend their knowledge. For example, following recent training on developing learning opportunities for boys, staff have introduced more construction play to provide boys with additional challenges. Parents' report that they are happy with the information they receive about their children's development, in particular the different ways they can access information.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	131709
<b>Local authority</b>	Islington
<b>Inspection number</b>	825512
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	32
<b>Name of provider</b>	M.A.R.S Montessori Schools Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	31 October 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 7704 2805

Mars Montessori Bilingual Nursery registered in 2000. It operates in the Angel area, in the London Borough of Islington. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 47 weeks of the year. The provider receives funding for the provision of free education for children aged three and four years. The provider employs seven staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications and one holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery uses the Montessori method of teaching and teaches children in both French and English.

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