

Mars Montessori Bilingual Nursery

4 Collins Yard, London, N1 2XU



Inspection date 16 March 2018
Previous inspection date 29 July 2015

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Outcomes for children | | Outstanding | 1 |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The nursery's leadership and management team is exceptionally strong. They work extremely well with other professionals and trainers to ensure that staff consistently maintain the highest standards for children's development.
- All staff expertly promote children's communication and language skills, making excellent use of conversation in every activity. They vary questions to extend children's understanding and they give them time to work their ideas through.
- Teaching is very strong. Staff have an excellent knowledge of the needs of every child to assist them in becoming independent and confident learners. They monitor and review progress and adjust teaching to meet each child's needs.
- High-quality activities promote children's physical development extremely well. Children take safe risks and assess levels of safety for themselves.
- Staff are deeply caring and patient with children and forge excellent relationships with them. Children learn to be co-operative and tolerant with each other.
- Staff involve parents in children's care and learning development and listen to parents' views. Parents say that nothing is left unresolved.
- The nursery cook provides well balanced and nutritious meals, which the children thoroughly enjoy and this contributes significantly to their very good health.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to further develop the excellent use of open spaces locally and evaluate the impact on children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor play areas and the outdoor learning environment. She conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector had discussions with the provider, manager and deputy manager during the inspection. They attended the feedback meeting at the end of the inspection. The inspector spoke with staff and children throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, such as planning, children's assessments, risk assessments and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of self-evaluation and the suitability and qualifications of staff working within the nursery.
- The inspector looked at written reviews and spoke with parents during the inspection. She took account of their views.

Inspector

Liz Kissane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff are very well trained and supervised. They work exceptionally well as a team. Highly productive links with professionals help ensure that staff keep up to date with good practice. Following recent training and as part of their astute self-evaluation, staff ask children for their views to plan highly stimulating indoor and outdoor activities. Children enjoy watching bulbs they have planted grow, and wait eagerly for the chick egg incubator to be delivered. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff understand their responsibilities in relation to child protection issues very well. They know how to report to relevant professionals should they become aware of concerns about children's welfare. All staff have a very thorough induction to confirm their suitability to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff know when to correct, repeat or extend children's language. They excel at teaching children to listen to sounds in words and to link sounds to letters of the alphabet. Children enjoy a range of high-quality books. They use ideas and characters from stories creatively and inventively in other activities, for example, when building castles in the sandpit. Children enjoy handling dough when they make bread. They measure out ingredients and compare spoon sizes. Children count the number of plates and glasses when they set the table for lunch. They show great confidence in using the equipment outdoors, learning different ways of keeping their balance. Staff take children to enjoy large open spaces available in parks locally. They are currently evaluating how to use these visits to greater effect to maintain the outstanding learning experiences for children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

All staff speak kindly and with great consideration to children. Their exceptionally positive attitudes help children to feel emotionally secure. Children respect the impressively organised, well-resourced environment. From a very young age, children learn to choose for themselves. They select healthy snacks on demand from a selection of prepared options. Children use high-quality domestic items as a matter of course and treat them with great care. They feel extremely trusted and valued. In return, their behaviour is exceptional. Role play helps children acquire life skills. From a young age they learn to look after themselves and their environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language, make rapid progress. They are motivated learners who enjoy a challenge. From a young age they learn to handle books. Children develop excellent early reading and writing skills and competently write their names. They acquire extremely good early mathematical skills. Children are very well prepared for the next stage in their education.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | 131709 |
| Local authority | Islington |
| Inspection number | 1126923 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| Age range of children | 1 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 25 |
| Number of children on roll | 35 |
| Name of registered person | M.A.R.S Montessori Schools Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP906939 |
| Date of previous inspection | 29 July 2015 |
| Telephone number | 020 7704 2805 |

Mars Montessori Bilingual Nursery registered in 2000 and is part of a small group of privately owned nurseries. The nursery's educational ethos is based on the Montessori method and teaches children in both French and English. It has been accredited by the Montessori Evaluation and Accreditation Board. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, for most of the year. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It employs seven staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

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