

Inspection of Living Spring Nursery Limited

St. Michael's Church Annex, St. Michael's Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 6XG

Inspection date: 28 February 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the nursery. Staff provide children with the utmost care, and interactions are highly sensitive and nurturing. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. Staff warmly welcome every child, and place the relationship they have with the children at the heart of everything they do. Children form very strong bonds with all members of staff.

Staff are excellent role models. Children's behaviour is exceptional. They follow the rules of the setting, and share, tidy up and use their manners. Staff support all children to develop their independence. Children learn to dress themselves and take responsibility for their self-care and hygiene from an early age. For example, children learn to use different fasteners, such as zips, buttons and poppers. This is reinforced by staff with praise, which supports children to develop their self-worth.

Each child has a highly qualified key person, who knows them exceptionally well. Staff plan challenging and interesting activities that support children to reach the next stage in their development. For example, as children confidently handle cutters, staff move on to teaching them to use knives safely. This enables children to gain skills that they will need in life. Children make rapid progress as they develop their confidence and independence.

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

- Staff have planned an incredibly ambitious curriculum that challenges children and supports them to achieve their next steps. Children are active participants in their learning. They engage with the learning on offer and make strong progress in all areas of their learning. Staff delight in children's enthusiasm as they learn, and offer praise and encouragement for their achievements.
- Staff support children's growing communication and language skills extremely well. Children are presented with rich learning opportunities that support them to add to their growing vocabulary. For example, as children learn about the water cycle, they are introduced to words such as 'precipitation' and 'condensation'. Through these experiences, children acquire new and interesting words.
- The quality of education is excellent. Staff continually put the children's interests at the forefront of what they do. For example, when learning about people who help us, children are given a choice of how to extend this learning. Children choose to build a fire engine using interlocking bricks. As children's interests are catered for, they stay engaged and focused for long periods.
- Staff support children to be kind and respectful individuals from a very young age. Children engage in 'grace and courtesy' circle times. Staff model different behaviours using props to help children to relate them to real-life situations.

Through these circle times, children learn to value others and treat people with courtesy and kindness.

- Parent partnership is a true strength of this setting. Staff have worked hard to develop exceptionally strong bonds with all parents. For example, parents are invited to workshops in the nursery about different aspects of child development. This means that parents learn to support their children's learning in different areas. Parents speak incredibly favourably about the setting and the amazing progress that their children have made during their time there.
- Leaders are fantastic role models for the nursery. The manager leads her team with pride. She heavily invests in staff training and supports all staff to develop their understanding and knowledge of child development. This means that children benefit from highly qualified and enthusiastic staff. Staff put time and effort into providing a high-quality provision for all children.
- Staff support children to build strong physical skills. For example, babies have an abundance of opportunities to walk along furniture and use toys to aid their balance. Staff have adapted an outdoor space to support babies' growing physical development. Babies enjoy fresh air as they strengthen their leg muscles in preparation for walking. Staff give the safeguarding of children the maximum priority. They are extremely vigilant in their supervision of children.
- Staff support children to build their resilience and perseverance skills. For example, when presented with a challenging activity involving a magnetic fishing rod and fish, children persevere until they are successful. Children gain a sense of achievement through these experiences and feel proud of themselves.
- Staff engage exceptionally well with other professionals and work hard to establish links with the local community. The deputy manager, who is also the special educational needs coordinator, acknowledges how successful partnerships are integral to supporting children's progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293804
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	10308164
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Living Spring Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907783
Telephone number	02088307331
Date of previous inspection	27 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

Living Spring Nursery Limited registered in 2004. It is located in Cricklewood in the London Borough of Brent. The nursery opens for five days a week from 8am to 6pm, and operates for 46 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to offer free early education for children aged three and four years. The nursery employs 19 members of staff, all of whom have appropriate early years qualifications that range from levels 2 to 6. The nursery follows the Montessori educational philosophy.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Sai Arunn

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 that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager and inspector conducted a learning walk of the setting and discussed the curriculum intent.
- The inspector and curriculum coordinator conducted a joint observation of a group activity.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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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