

# Blundells Day Nursery

Sheepcote Lane, Battersea, London, SW11 5BW



## Inspection date

27 May 2015

Previous inspection date

4 August 2014

|  | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Requires improvement</b> | <b>3</b> |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>                          | Previous inspection:    | Requires Improvement        | 3        |
| How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend |                         | Requires improvement        | 3        |
| The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children            |                         | Requires improvement        | 3        |
| The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision        |                         | Requires improvement        | 3        |
| The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>           |                         |                             |          |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not use all opportunities to extend children's learning, particularly when they are involved in child-led activities. This is because the quality of teaching is variable and staff do not always encourage children in their learning to enable them to make good progress.
- Staff do not always use information about children's abilities to plan challenging activities to help them move on to the next stage in their learning.
- The methods to monitor and evaluate the provision are not successful in identifying areas that require improvement. For example, management does not monitor staff performance effectively to ensure the quality of teaching is consistently good.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff build positive relationships with parents and encourage them to talk about their children's achievements at home. Parents know their child's key person and are confident to talk to them about their child's time in the nursery.
- Children learn about healthy lifestyles and keeping themselves safe. Staff talk with them and encourage them to play games about road safety, and they benefit from healthy and nutritious snacks and meals.
- There is a good range of resources in all of the rooms that are easily accessible to children. This allows them to make choices in their play.
- Management and staff implement appropriate child protection procedures to safeguard children. They know the appropriate procedures to follow in the event of a concern and recruitment procedures are thorough.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- improve the quality of teaching so it is of a consistently high standard so that staff interact effectively with children during activities to help them make good progress in their learning and development
- improve observation and assessment so that that the information is used to plan challenging and enjoyable activities that help children move on to the next stage in their learning and development.

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

- improve systems for monitoring and evaluating the quality of the provision, particularly the quality of teaching, so that it is raised to a consistently high level to enable all children make good progress in their learning and development.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's quality of teaching with children in the playrooms and garden.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's assessment records, planning, evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff, as well as the provider's procedures for evaluating their practice.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times, and took into account the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Lorraine Sparey

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement**

Children are comfortable in the welcoming and well-maintained environment. They move around the nursery with confidence and make choices in their play. Staff complete observations and assessments on children. However, they do not consistently plan activities that take into account what each child needs to learn next. For example, staff know when children are ready to move to the next age group but do not plan activities to extend children's learning to prepare them for this move. Staff are inconsistent in their teaching methods. At times, they engage well with children and ask questions to gain the children's understanding. For example, staff ask children what they are building with the blocks to encourage them to think and form their responses. However, at times they do not talk to the children to encourage them to increase their vocabulary and motivate them in their learning. Nevertheless, children are making steady progress and gaining some skills for their next stage in their learning.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

Children have opportunities to play in the outdoor area. At times, staff support children's physical skills as they encourage them to walk on the balancing beam, to climb on the climbing frame and catch balls. However, at other times staff expect the children to develop their own ideas and children lose interest and their behaviour deteriorates. Children listen with interest as a member of staff encourages them to explore a road safety game. This leads to a discussion about keeping safe and using the road crossing correctly. In general, children's behaviour is appropriate for their age and stage of development. They are building positive relationships with key staff and others.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement**

Management and staff provide a safe and secure environment, and implement the safeguarding requirements appropriately. They have been working closely with early years professionals to improve their practice since the last inspection. They have plans to work closely with other early years providers to improve outcomes for children. Staff supervision enables management to monitor their performance. They regularly attend training courses to develop their knowledge and share this with others during team meetings to help all staff improve practice. However, management does not successfully identify inconsistencies in the quality of staff's teaching to enable them to meet the learning and development requirements. Management does not have a true picture of how children are progressing in the nursery. Staff work closely with parents and provide them with regular reports on their children's progress. This helps involve parents in their children's learning.

## Setting details

|                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | 123090                        |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Wandsworth                    |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 986789                        |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Full-time provision           |
| <b>Registration category</b>       | Childcare - Non-Domestic      |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 0 - 8                         |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 52                            |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 60                            |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Blundells Day Nursery Limited |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 4 August 2014                 |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 02079244204                   |

Blundells Day Nursery registered in 1992 and is privately owned. It operates from a converted courthouse in Battersea, in the London Borough of Wandsworth. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 49 weeks of the year. The provision employs 15 members of staff; all staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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