

Wainscot House Day Nursery

5 Harpenden Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 5LW



Inspection date	3 September 2018
Previous inspection date	5 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1

Effectiveness of leadership and management	Outstanding	1
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Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	Outstanding	1
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Personal development, behaviour and welfare	Outstanding	1
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Outcomes for children	Outstanding	1
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Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- Staff are highly responsive to children's needs and work in exceptionally strong partnership with parents to adapt practice to children's personal requirements. Children thrive at the nursery. They are happy, settled and form secure attachments with staff and peers.
- Staff use highly effective systems to monitor children's progress and are very proactive in working with managers to provide swift support for those children who require it. Staff know children exceedingly well. Children fully benefit from interesting and challenging experiences accurately based on their learning needs.
- Teaching is outstanding. Across the nursery, staff thoroughly immerse themselves in children's play. They successfully promote children's interests, next steps and preferred learning styles. Children are highly motivated, engaged and eagerly explore stimulating activities indoors and outside. Children flourish in their learning.
- Parents are delighted with the outstanding educational programmes for children. They speak highly of the dedication of staff towards children's learning experiences.
- Staff are exceptional role models and make their expectations of children very clear. Children behave extremely well. They rapidly grow in confidence and independence.
- Staff complete robust risk assessments of the premises. This helps them to keep children safe. Managers effectively deploy staff to closely supervise children, who are engaged in inspirational learning opportunities that provide manageable challenges.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- expand on the opportunities for staff to extend their skills through professional development and maintain and build on their already superb teaching practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint evaluations of activities with the nursery manager and room leaders.
- The inspector held meetings with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability of staff and their training and qualifications.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents, viewed their written feedback and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karina Hemerling

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff attend child protection training and are alert to the signs of abuse. They know the steps to take should concerns about a child or other staff arise. Managers assertively monitor the suitability and performance of staff, through ongoing supervision meetings and coaching. The team has an uncompromising commitment to achieving excellence. They actively reflect on practice and involve parents in consistently sharing their views. Managers have high expectations of themselves and staff. They have planned further professional development opportunities to help maintain the consistently outstanding teaching practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The highly qualified staff plan exceptional opportunities to promote children's unique talents. For example, pre-school children show exceptional mathematical, literacy and social skills as they delight in playing in the highly stimulating mud kitchen. They learn about measuring using utensils and enjoy creating recipes. Children discuss, negotiate and delegate roles while playing. Staff inspire children to learn. For example, they lead exceptionally creative and highly stimulating story sessions. All children access books and enjoy reading throughout the day. Staff expertly understand child development. Children make remarkable progress in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff give exceptional attention to promoting children's well-being. Children rapidly develop their independence and self-esteem. They actively learn self-care skills and enjoy helping staff during tasks. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about each other, their community and the world. They make friends and play in exceptional harmony. For example, children have an important role in helping staff in welcoming new children into nursery. They show the activities and routines to their new peers. Children learn about each other's interests and preferences. Staff promote children's health exceptionally well. Children enjoy nutritious meals, learn to play sports and enjoy plenty of exercise. They have outstanding opportunities to play outdoors and explore nature.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress from their starting points. This includes those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. Children of all ages are extremely eager to take part in activities led by staff. They are very fond of taking part in small groups for literacy, numeracy and physical activities. Children learn through play and show amazing creativity and imagination as they explore resources and lead their play. They confidently develop the skills they will need to successfully start school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123574
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10070748
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Wainscot Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903610
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2015
Telephone number	01727 811116

Wainscot House Day Nursery registered in 1992. The nursery employs 31 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round except for bank holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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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