

Inspection of West Thames College Nursery

London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4HS

Inspection date: 25 April 2023

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

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the nursery. The attentive and caring staff are extremely welcoming and interested in what children and parents have to say. Children show a real sense of belonging in the setting. On arrival, they are happy and settle very quickly. Babies and young children's care needs are met very well. Staff respond swiftly when children need reassurance or are tired.

Managers and staff have very high expectations for all children. The enticing activities engage and excite children and support their learning and development very well. For example, children use their small muscles as they make pictures of blossom trees with tissue and sticks. Staff help them develop an understanding of the changing seasons. Babies enjoy exploring different sensory resources, such as play dough. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their imaginative ideas. They use a variety of materials to create different artwork and learn about famous artists.

Helping children learn about the wider world is a key strength of the nursery. Children of all ages show high levels of curiosity and wonder as they observe the ducklings in the water tray. Staff skilfully extend their learning by introducing new words. They talk about the ducklings' webbed feet and beaks. Children recall when they observed the ducklings hatch from eggs and study the shells. They show that they know how to care for living things.

Children behave exceptionally well for their age and stage of development. They quickly learn routines, listen and follow instructions. Children show kindness and consideration towards others, and quickly learn to share and use good manners. They learn about their feelings and develop respect for others. Staff are very positive role models. They interact politely and courteously with children and each other.

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

- The highly ambitious curriculum is implemented very effectively and prepares children for the next stage, including school. The well-qualified and highly experienced staff are passionate about their work. They are very aware of their key children's individual needs and talk knowledgeably about the children they care for. This supports children's emotional well-being extremely well. Staff comment they are well supported by managers, who consider their well-being. They have frequent training opportunities and share this information with the team. Regular supervision, team meetings and appraisals ensure that all staff understand and implement all aspects of their work very effectively.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff and managers work closely with

parents and other professionals to ensure any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and closed. For example, they work with speech therapists to support children's communication. This has a positive impact on the outcome for children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff find out about each child from the onset and share this information, enabling all staff to be aware of each child's individual interests and families. Staff complete assessments and keep parents well informed. They make suggestions of how to support children's learning at home. Staff actively seek feedback from parents through discussions, questionnaires and parent forums. Parents are highly complimentary about the nursery. They comment that their children are very happy.

- Adult-led activities are extremely well planned. For example, staff help children to follow instructions as they plant seeds, and skilfully encourage them to recall what happened when they last did this. This helps children to consolidate what they already know. Staff extend children's learning even further by introducing mathematical language. They encourage children to compare the size, shape and colour of the seeds they plant. Children are confident to join in and highly engaged and motivated to learn.
- Staff give high priority to the development of communication and language skills. For example, they are animated as they engage children in stories and songs and ask questions during play. Children who speak English as an additional language have opportunities to hear and use their home languages in the nursery. Staff learn key words in children's home languages. They use their language skills and visual aids to support communication. Children hear music in different languages. Babies enjoy singing rhymes and benefit from staff interactions during daily routines. Small, focused language groups also help to ensure that all children make rapid progress in their language development.
- Children thoroughly enjoy fresh air and physical play. They strengthen their large muscles as they step over tyres, and use their small muscles to dig in the mud kitchen and allotment. Babies explore the environment and stretch to reach resources. Weekly dance and sports sessions provide further opportunities for children to move their bodies in various ways. Children learn good hygiene routines. They develop independence, including handwashing and brushing their teeth.
- The managers and staff continually reflect on their high-quality practice. They work closely with early years advisers and review their policies and procedures to continually enhance their service.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers ensure that staff are suitably vetted. They hold ongoing discussions to ensure the continued well-being and suitability of staff. All staff have a secure knowledge of safeguarding procedures. They attend regular safeguarding training to update their knowledge. As a result, staff fully understand how to report any concerns they may have about a child in her care and how to follow whistleblowing

procedures. Staff are well deployed and ensure that children are constantly supervised. Regular risk assessments are undertaken to ensure that the premises are secure and clean, and that children remain safe in their care. All staff complete paediatric first-aid training.

Setting details

Unique reference number	116213
Local authority	Hounslow
Inspection number	10284353
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 5
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	West Thames College
Registered person unique reference number	RP523603
Telephone number	02083262318
Date of previous inspection	13 November 2017

Information about this early years setting

West Thames College Nursery registered in 1997. It operates from the college site situated in Isleworth, in the London Borough of Hounslow. The nursery is open each weekday from 8.45am to 5pm, during term time only. The provider is in receipt of early education funding for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 11 staff, including the manager. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager holds a suitable level 6 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Deborah Orchard

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 manager completed a learning walk with the inspector and talked about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- Joint observations were completed by the inspector and the nursery manager.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the nursery manager. The inspector looked at a sample of the nursery's documents. This included evidence of staff suitability and training.

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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