

Inspection of Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery West Kensington

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery, 1 Springvale Terrace, London W14 0AE

Inspection date: 2 September 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Leaders and staff provide a warm and welcoming environment where children happily arrive and settle quickly at their chosen activity. Children confidently explore the resources on offer and make choices in their play. Effective settling-in processes support children to build strong relationships with staff. Staff are very kind and nurturing towards the children, and as a result, children demonstrate they feel safe and secure and are ready to learn.

Leaders and staff have a good understanding of their curriculum. They know the children well and closely observe and monitor their learning. From here, they plan a range of exciting activities around children's interests to support their continued progress. For example, young babies delight in exploring different textures, such as foam, mud and sand. They manipulate it with their hands, make different marks and fill and empty containers to support their physical development. Staff support children's behaviour effectively. They give lots of gentle reminders about sharing and turn-taking, and they create class rules with the older children. As a result, children listen well and help at tidy-up time. They are kind and caring towards each other and demonstrate a positive attitude towards learning.

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

- Staff have recently completed training around the curriculum and their understanding of how children learn. This results in the intent of their activities improving since the last inspection. Staff confidently describe what children need to do next and how they are going to support them. Children delight in using tongs or spoons to transfer chickpeas into different containers. Staff explain this is to support their hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills, which, in the long run, will help to develop their early writing skills.
- Leaders and staff closely monitor children's development and quickly identify any gaps in children's learning. They work effectively with other professionals and parents and put strategies in place to minimise these gaps. As a result, all children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- Staff have recently introduced new ways of supporting children's self-regulation. They use a range of stories and activities to encourage children to learn how to express how they feel, matching it to a colour or an expression. Staff talk to children about different strategies they can use and encourage older children to manage it themselves.
- Staff are well supported by leaders who value the well-being of their team. Leaders complete regular peer observations and invite staff to supervision meetings to discuss their progress and professional development.
- At times, staff stop babies when they are engrossed in play and introduce

activities that they are not interested in. This results in babies being unengaged or disinterested in what they are being encouraged to do and hinders them from following their own interests.

- Leaders and staff build strong relationships with parents and keep them up to date with their children's learning. For example, staff share photos and reports on an online app that parents can access at home. Parents are invited to attend regular coffee mornings, meetings and events. Staff provide parents with guidance for topics such as potty training or reading to support families at home.
- Overall, staff support children's early communication skills well. They engage with children at their level, speak clearly and ask questions to extend children's learning. However, at times, staff do not fully give children a chance to think and respond with their ideas when they ask them questions.
- Leaders and staff regularly reflect on their practice. They look at what is working well and what they could do to improve outcomes for children. They take into account feedback from other professionals, parents and staff. For example, after recent menu changes, they looked at what children liked and adapted their menus to support their needs.
- At times, staff do not organise transitions effectively to maintain children's engagement and focus. For example, babies wait too long for meals to arrive and become unsettled and distracted.
- Staff encourage children to develop their independence skills effectively. For instance, younger children learn to feed themselves and make choices in their play. Older children confidently serve themselves, pour their own drinks and manage their own hygiene routines.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to increase experiences for babies to follow their own interests and ideas to support their learning
- enhance staff's teaching skills to allow children sufficient time to respond to questions to fully enhance their learning
- help staff to review how some transitions in daily routines are organised to ensure all children stay engaged and do not lose interest.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2778686
Local authority	Hammersmith & Fulham
Inspection number	10371945
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 4
Total number of places	88
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Monkey Puzzle Day Nurseries (West Kensington) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2778685
Telephone number	0203 490 9326
Date of previous inspection	25 October 2024

Information about this early years setting

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery West Kensington registered in 2024. It is based in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. It receives funding to provide early education for eligible children. The nursery employs 20 members of staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Becky Phillips

Inspection activities

- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk to gather information about how the provision and curriculum are organised.
- The manager carried out a joint observation with the inspector to evaluate the quality of teaching.
- The inspector spoke to staff and parents at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors, to assess the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.

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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