

Inspection of Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association

Community Centre, Hornsey Lane Estate, LONDON N19 3YJ

Inspection date: 5 March 2025

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Significant breaches to the requirements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage' (EYFS) impact on children's safety and welfare. Leaders and managers expectations for the quality of the provision are poor. As a result of their insufficient monitoring of teaching, practice and the environment, children's needs are not met.

Children are familiar with the nursery and mostly settle. However, children who become distressed or unhappy do not receive sufficient time and reassurance from staff. This does not support children's personal and emotional development or support children to feel safe, secure and happy.

Staff are mostly unaware of children who do not take part or contribute. Children who quietly wander are left to themselves. Most children show little interest in the limited range of activities. Leaders and managers and staff do not provide a positive role model for learning. They do not demonstrate sufficient enthusiasm, motivation or interest in the activities available to children.

Leaders and managers fail to plan an effective curriculum or ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills they need to support children in their learning. The lack of clear intentions for children's learning means that children do not benefit from purposeful or challenging experiences that move them on to their next stage of learning. As a result, children, including those with funded places and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), do not make sufficient progress.

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

- Leaders and managers have a poor oversight of the quality of provision. Those with responsibility for leading and managing the nursery do not understand EYFS requirements. Consequently, despite raising previous actions through a Welfare Requirements Notice, there remain breaches to these requirements. This limits the provider's capacity to make and sustain improvements that assure the safety and welfare of children.
- Leaders and managers spend time with staff individually, however, they do not focus supervision and training precisely on what staff need to understand their roles and responsibilities. Leaders do not monitor staff or managers' practice effectively, or act promptly to make the necessary improvements. This means staff do not know how to fulfil their role or understand how to effectively support children's learning.
- Staff do not support children to keep themselves safe and manage their feelings. Staff give instructions but do not give consistent messages to children to explain

why and how to behave. For example, staff do not remove unsafe play equipment but repeatedly tell children not to climb on it. Furthermore, they do not offer children any explanation or an alternative activity. Leaders and staff allow poor behaviour, which leads to a chaotic environment that hinders children's learning.

- Leaders and managers do not take sufficient steps to protect children from risks to their health and safety. Children's health is compromised when insufficient care is taken when handling food. For example, children prepare fruit without access to available chopping boards. Children attempt to cut through the fruit with knives as it slides across the table top. Staff's poor supervision allows children to lick fruit and then share with others. Children walk around the room while eating and discard fruit on the floor. Children are exposed to the spread of germs or accidents.
- Leaders and managers do not enable staff to create an environment that supports children's language and communication. Children do not have enough opportunity to hear, learn and use words to communicate and take part. Staff offer little encouragement for children to chatter to each other during social activities, such as meal and snack times. In the main, staff talk briefly with children, often to give instructions. They do not help children to sustain a conversation, challenge their thinking or introduce new vocabulary. This means that children do not benefit from good-quality interactions that support their developing communication skills.
- Leaders and managers do not have a clear understanding of how to support children with SEND. Staff lack knowledge about individual children, therefore, monitoring of children's progress is not robust. Consequently, children do not receive the meaningful support that they need to progress.
- Parents feel able to discuss their child with their key person. Leaders provide an online system for parents with observations and photographs to inform them of what their children are doing.
- Staff deployment does not provide the necessary supervision of young children to ensure their safety and consistently meet their individual needs. Unqualified staff, with limited experience, supervise children with SEND without the necessary and relevant expertise and knowledge to competently support them.
- Leaders and managers fail to plan an effective curriculum or ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills they need to support children in their learning. The lack of clear intentions for children's learning means that children do not benefit from purposeful or challenging experiences that move them on to their next stage of learning. As a result, children, including those with funded places and those with SEND, do not make the progress of which they are capable.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure that leaders and managers, including the nominated individual, have effective oversight of the setting and fully understand and consistently meet EYFS requirements	10/04/2025
deploy staff effectively so that they can consistently meet children's individual needs and supervise them safely	10/04/2025
ensure that there are enough qualified staff to meet the minimum staff-to-child ratios in order to promote the care, safety and education of children at all times	10/04/2025
provide support for staff so that they can manage children's behaviour in a safe and appropriate way	10/04/2025
implement effective support for children with SEND so that their needs are met	10/04/2025
ensure that risk assessment is used effectively to identify and remove or minimise risks to children's health and safety	10/04/2025
ensure that staff always promote the good hygiene of children	10/04/2025
identify and provide appropriate training and professional development opportunities to ensure that all staff have the required knowledge and skills to fulfil their role.	10/04/2025

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
devise and implement an ambitious curriculum that provides opportunities to support children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning	10/04/2025
ensure that planning for activities takes account of children's individual interests and stages of learning so that activities are interesting, enjoyable and challenging for every child	10/04/2025
improve the support for children's communication and language development so that they are exposed to and develop a broad vocabulary.	10/04/2025

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421775
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	10390527
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	2 to 11
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association
Registered person unique reference number	RP530368
Telephone number	02072725938
Date of previous inspection	5 July 2023

Information about this early years setting

Hornsey Lane Estate Community Association re-registered in 2011. The centre comprises a day nursery, an after-school club and a holiday play scheme. It operates in Hornsey, in the London Borough of Islington. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 6.00pm, for 45 weeks of the year. The nursery employs four members of staff, of whom one holds a childcare qualification. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Julia Crowley

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities.
- The inspector was provided with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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