

Camden Square Playcentre

Murray Street, London, NW1 9RE



Inspection date	17 November 2016
Previous inspection date	15 February 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The club is excellently led and managed by a well-experienced and knowledgeable manager. The dedicated staff team works very well together, fostering a culture of teamwork, which sets a good example to the children.
- Children are extremely happy and thoroughly enjoy attending the club. They benefit from the warm and close relationships that they have established with staff, who show a real care and concern towards each and every child.
- Children gain a wide range of skills as they enjoy a wealth of experiences and participate in a broad range of activities that supports their future learning.
- Staff work extremely well with parents, offering support and guidance in meeting their individual need. Parents speak very highly of the staff, stating that they go 'the extra mile' to support them and describing their children's time at the club as 'immense' as they enjoy fun and interesting activities and outings.
- Partnerships with other professionals make a strong contribution towards the support and care provided for children with special educational needs or disability, and those with additional needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase support for children to further develop their independence to aid their well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the club to see all areas available for children.
- The inspector observed the quality of the interactions between staff and children as they engaged in activities together.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff during the inspection to gain their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including staff and children's files and some of the written policies and procedures in place.

Inspector

Samantha Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding arrangements are effective. There are clear procedures for safeguarding children and staff have a vigilant understanding of their role to protect them. The manager is passionate about providing a high-quality provision where children can take ownership of their play. She sets an excellent example to a committed staff team, who work exceptionally well together to achieve outstanding practice across the club. There is a highly effective programme of training to support staff's professional development. Staff regularly discuss and reflect on their practice during team and impromptu meetings. This ensures that staff have the knowledge and skills to meet the diverse needs of individual and groups of children attending.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children relish their time at the club and thoroughly enjoy the excellent range of activities available. For example, children who prefer and enjoy being physical and playing outdoors can use an amazing outdoor play area. They ride bikes, learn to roller skate and skate board. They also enjoy using equipment such as torches and magnifiers to hunt and play hide and seek in the bushes and overgrown areas in the playground. There are great opportunities for children to be creative and their work is valued. For example, staff create a safe environment with an interesting range of materials, where children freely make their own creations. However, at times staff realise that they could develop children's levels of independence even further. Children take pride in a mural that they made using various materials such as bottle tops, building bricks and container lids, which is displayed in the outdoor area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children play exceptionally well together. For example, they cooperate well during group activities, show kindness towards each other and help each other complete tasks. They behave well and respond well to the positive praise and encouragement they receive. Children are valued and respected. For example, they share their views easily and make decisions about their play. They learn to keep themselves safe and manage risks as they navigate their way in the indoor and outdoor learning environments closely supervised by staff. Children demonstrate very good hygiene practices and self-care skills, and staff place a strong emphasis on being active. Staff reinforce children's understanding of healthy eating as they involve children in growing their own vegetables. They successfully support children's awareness of diversity and difference. For example, they encourage children to participate in community events, to embrace difference and to value and respect others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453439
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	1063033
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	140
Name of registered person	Maiden Lane Community Centre Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP530930
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2013
Telephone number	07812 176 489

Camden Square Playcentre registered in 2012. It is managed by Maiden Lane Community Centre and located in the Canteloves Ward area in the London Borough of Camden. The centre operates from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time and from 8am to 6pm during school holidays. Eight staff work directly with the children. Of these, six have appropriate early years qualifications. The centre also operates a pre-school during term time. The pre-school operates from 9.15am to 2.15pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The pre-school employs four staff, all of whom have an appropriate early years qualification. The pre-school provides funded spaces for children aged two, three and four years old.

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