

June 2025 Special Edition

DEPUTY MAYOR OF LONDON VISITS ROOFTOP NURSERY

A Special Visit from the Mayors

We were delighted to welcome the Deputy Mayor of London, Joanne McCartney and Hackney Mayor, Caroline Woodley, both of whom came to Roof Top Nursery to celebrate our achievement of the Gold Mayor Award from Healthy Early Years London (HEYL), during their recent visit to our nursery. They were incredibly impressed with every aspect of their experience, from the thoughtful layout and inviting setup to the warm hospitality of our team. They took great interest in how engaged the children were in their learning and daily activities.

Joanne McCartney shared with the Deputy Mayor that we had "truly set the bar high" for any other nurseries they may visit in the future. The Mayor was especially inspired by the story shared by our Nursery Manager, who described the journey of building the nursery from the ground up, guided by a clear vision, strong ethos, and solid foundations.

During their visit, they were delighted to see the children in the Rainbow Room learning about healthy lifestyles and exploring the role of health in everyday life. They listened with interest as staff shared stories and activities around healthy choices. In the garden, the toddlers proudly showed off their vegetable patch, which they've been nurturing for the past three months. The herb garden and thriving vegetables left a lasting impression. Followed only by how we support independent skills, serving their own snacks.

Each Room Leader had the opportunity to speak directly with the Deputy Mayor, sharing insights into the learning taking place across the nursery. The visit concluded on the Playroof, where the preschool room's exceptional learning environment left both mayors extremely impressed, observing the children doing an obstacle course and racing games using the outdoor space to support healthy living. They praised the creative use of space to enrich and support children's development.

Our nursery building itself is a point of pride, an award-winning structure recognised under RIBA. It received national acclaim in 2006 for Best Designed Building nationally and was again awarded in 2007 as one of the top-designed buildings in London.

We are honoured by their visit and incredibly proud of the recognition given to our dedicated team, inspiring children, and exceptional learning environment.

We are thrilled to share some exciting pictures from the visit from the Deputy Mayor.

Sherine from Hackney Education, who is in charge of HEYL was also present at the visit. Sherine was proud and excited to also visit the nursery after reading all of the work and different things put in place to achieve our bronze, silver and gold awards. She is looking forward to all the new things we put in the nursery moving forward.

Healthy Early Years London is a Mayor of London-funded scheme, which acknowledges and supports early years settings in our commitment to;

- Early cognitive development
- Child development
- Supporting and regulating children's emotional well-being
- Child health and wellbeing
- Supporting healthy eating,
- Oral and physical health,
- supporting language development and supporting children and families with children with additional needs, and being open to neurodiversity needs
- reducing health inequalities by promoting a healthy start to life

We firmly believe that providing children with a strong start in life, fostering emotional resilience, and maximising their educational opportunities are crucial for lifelong health and wellbeing. As a nursery, we recognise our significant role in laying the groundwork for your child's future health and wellbeing as they prepare for school.

We are so proud to have been recognised for all the work and dedication we do daily to promote all these areas. **We want to extend a heartfelt thank you** to the entire team, the children, and the parents who have supported this journey. A special thanks to all the staff who work tirelessly to ensure the nursery looks its best each and every day. Your dedication and care make's all the difference!







Oral health - Brushing teeth



Learning through play, about healthy options



Healthy eating projects - supporting independent skills from a young age



Learning through play - healthy options, maths, exploring..



Lilly Explaining our Gardening projects and how we use visual to support language



Supporting care for the environment through independent skills
Learning about the life cycle of plants- our Vegetable patch

Our Herb Patch





Supporting physical activities - Outdoor play



Forest play- exploring in the nature making connections

Feedback from the Deputy Mayor's Office

Just wanted to send you a personal note to thank you for accommodating our visit to the Rooftop Nursery. It was such a delight to see what you have achieved there, Hafiza, I was particularly struck by how happy and passionate the staff were – which speaks volumes about the environment you have created in the nursery. The love, care and passion towards children's health, development and wellbeing was visible across all the rooms and activities you showed us. We have also heard back from Joanne about how much she enjoyed the visit and the warm welcome from you and your staff.

Magda Balicka - Senior Manager Policy and Intelligence, London Mayor's Office

Beautiful set up with spaces for children to engage in a wide range of activities that support their development and learning.

Children were confident, happy, calm and engaged and was clear to see the well-connected relationships they had with the practitioners.

Sherine Addai
Healthy Early Years



STAFF AWARD WINNERS 2025



On Friday 20th June, we celebrated our annual staff award ceremony. **Our Staff Award winners for 2025 were Miss Antoinette Myrie and Shanaz Balesaria!**

Special congratulations to both staff award winners. Shanaz is the Senior Practitioner for Sunshine Room, and Antoinette has recently been promoted to Nursery Supervisor. They are both dedicated staff members who go the extra mile for all the children, bring joy, laughter and positivity to the workplace and deserve this special recognition.

The staff award winners have been awarded one week of paid holiday to take alongside the summer holiday in August.

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to vote. Some of your kind words were shared on the day with the staff to recognise their achievements, hard work, and commitment

We also had awards for other categories such as Outstanding Staff Members, Most Indispensable Role, Best Achievement, Loyal Staff, Best Teamwork, and Excellent Commitment to the Team.



Team Celebration at Saffron Restaurant

We were all treated to a wonderful celebration meal at Saffron Restaurant, where we shared delicious food, laughter, and heartfelt moments. It was a special evening spent with colleagues who have become more like family, a perfect way to celebrate our teamwork and the bonds we've built.



Rooftop Staff Team 2025



The team would like to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to our manager for consistently going above and beyond. Your thoughtful recognition of our efforts, kind gestures, and the time you take to appreciate each of us does not go unnoticed. Whether it's a word of encouragement, a thoughtful treat, or simply acknowledging the hard work we do, your support means a lot to all of us. Thank you for creating such a positive and uplifting environment for our team.