

Lilliput Montessori Day Nursery (Coalville)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	223230
Inspection date	20/03/2012
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Setting address	Railway House, Hotel Street, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 3EQ
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Type of setting	Childcare - Non-Domestic

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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Description of the setting

Lilliput Montessori Day Nursery (Coalville) is one of five nurseries run by Lilliput Day Nurseries Ltd. It opened in 1999 and operates from six rooms in a purpose built building in Coalville, Leicestershire. The nursery offers full day care and before and after school care. A maximum of 66 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each week day from 7.30am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area and may attend a variety of sessions. There are currently 102 children on roll.

The nursery is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery employs 14 members of staff, most of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery receives support from the local authority.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The nursery environment is bright and colourful and very clean. Many of the older children are confident individuals who relate very well to visitors to the nursery. Babies are extremely content and comfortable in their surroundings. Partnership with parents and others is good. Most potential hazards have been minimised and hand washing procedures are effective most of the time. Planning for improvement, including the process of self-evaluation, is effective.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure all reasonable steps are taken to ensure the safety of children, with specific reference to the rubber bands on their drinking cups (Suitable premises, environment and equipment). (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 20/03/2012

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- improve the steps taken to prevent the spread of infection when children are washing their hands.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are cared for by staff who clearly understand their roles in the event of a child protection concern. They are confident about procedures they must follow and share this information with parents at the onset of care. Staff are effectively deployed and bank staff that the children are familiar with cover in the event of staff absences. Consequently, ratios are always met and the children are well supervised. Children are further safeguarded by the nurseries robust recruitment, vetting and induction procedures. This helps to ensure the suitability of staff who work with the children. There are written risk assessments in place which are supported by daily checking procedures. Many potential hazards to children and staff have been identified and minimised. For example, to prevent babies trapping fingers in doors or getting bumped by opening doors staff have effectively used a large safety gate to block off this area. However, in one of the rooms a potential hazard to children has been omitted. For example, rubber bands are used to attach children's photographs to their cups to help them identify their own drinks. Consequently, this may potentially impact on the children's safety. The policies and procedures of the setting are effective and inclusive for those children who attend. Children enjoy a suitable learning environment and staff make good use of space within the provision. Children use a good range of resources and these are easily accessible.

There is good capacity for continuous improvement. All actions and recommendations raised at the last inspection have been very well addressed by most of the staff. This has had a significant positive impact upon children's welfare and learning. The staff team are enthusiastic about improving this already high quality provision for children and their families. They take time to discuss their practice during appraisals and team meetings and readily accept support from their local authority advisor. Senior staff have completed the Ofsted self-evaluation form actively identifying their priorities for the future. Methods to ascertain the parent's views about the setting are currently being further developed.

Strong partnerships with parents have been developed. Effective methods are in place to share their child's day to day care, their achievements and progress across the six areas of learning. Parents are valued by the staff as they encourage them to share what they know about their children's stage of development. During the inspection parents were asked to share their views on the nursery. They comment positively on many aspects of the service they receive. For example, they share the staff and manager are very easy to approach, their children are very happy to come to the nursery and often very sad to leave at the end of the day. Partnerships with other providers where children attend more than one setting are in place and presently being further developed. As a result, this ensures a consistent approach towards their care and education.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

The nursery environment is attractively presented, fresh and extremely clean. Space is organised very well indeed and babies have access to huge amounts of open space. As a result, they can safely crawl and toddle around exploring their environment. Children who attend this nursery are happy and have developed strong bonds with their peers. They harmoniously play together and communicate with one another throughout the day. Snack and meal times are social occasions where they hold conversations for prolonged periods. For example, they converse about what they are eating, what vegetables they can identify in their casserole and what part of the meal they enjoy the most. Therefore, children are developing good language and communication skills.

The babies are inquisitive and show an interest in many aspects of their environment. Older children eagerly approach organised activities and confidently create their own games. All children are provided with good opportunities to access learning both inside and outdoors. Some children have access to a free flow environment which is especially well used. Planning is effective in considering children's different learning styles, their individual interests and their next steps in their learning. As a result children are making good progress.

All children's personal, social and emotional development is being effectively enhanced. Children of all ages are settled and their self-esteem is being developed. This is because all staff take opportunities to praise the children regardless of how big or small their achievements may be. For example, babies receive praise for making babbling sounds into the handset of a mobile phone when a member of staff is encouraging them to say 'hello'. Two to three year olds are praised for making marks on paper with colouring pencils and older children are praised for explaining what they used to make a wormery. Consequently, they are also learning about the habitats of living things and the world around them.

Children's health is promoted well overall. Hand washing procedures are effective in most instances. However, on occasion the nurseries hand washing procedures are not effectively implemented in practice. At the onset of care individual care plans are agreed regarding children's specific health or dietary needs. This information is then shared with the nursery cook to ensure she can provide appropriate meals. Food provided to the children is thoroughly enjoyed. For example, they are keen to tuck into meals like chicken casserole and dumplings and jelly and cream for dessert. Consequently, children's nutritional needs are being considered through a healthy diet. Children have prompt, appropriate treatment from first aid trained staff if they have an accident, become unwell or need medication. Full records are kept and discussed with and signed by parents. Children are becoming increasingly aware of how to keep themselves safe. For example, they are involved in conversations about what to do in an emergency and participate in practising the emergency evacuation drill.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality
Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong
Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound
Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) 20/03/2012

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) 20/03/2012