

Claygate Montessori School



Claygate Village Hall, Church Road, Claygate, ESHER, Surrey, KT10 0JP

Inspection date 9 February 2015
Previous inspection date 29 January 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is consistently high which helps children make good progress and prepares them well for the move to primary school.
- Staff work well with other professionals to provide good support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This enables children to make the best possible progress.
- Staff build strong bonds with children. This helps to motivate children and build their confidence.
- The manager monitors the quality of the provision and takes positive steps to develop it further.
- Children are developing their communication and language skills further by learning French. This also helps them learn about the wider world.
- Staff make the best possible use of the small outdoor area to enhance children's learning. The environment is stimulating with mirrors on the wall and a music area, as well as various physical play apparatus. Children can plant flowers and vegetables to find out how things grow.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The procedures to help children settle in when they first start attending are not comprehensive because parents are not fully involved in this process.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance procedures for helping new children to settle in quickly and easily.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children during activities.
- The inspector held discussion with staff at relevant times.
- The inspector sampled documentation including policy and procedures and children's assessment records.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children.

Inspector

Sheryll Edwards

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff rigorously assess children's progress which enables them to plan specific activities that help each child to make good progress and prepare them for school. Staff skilfully deliver fun activities that teach older children how to read, write and spell simple words. Children enjoy small group work and learn about 2D and 3D shapes through art and drawing activities. Staff make thorough observations of children's development which enable them to draw up precise, individually-tailored learning plans which take account of children's interests. Staff are positive role models and drive children to try their best and behave well through an abundance of positive praise and encouragement. Staff fully support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities; they adapt activities well to ensure all children are included and are making good progress.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff ensure that good quality teaching takes place outdoors as well as inside. Children have the opportunity to develop their large muscle skills by riding bikes, as well as playing throwing and jumping games with staff. Staff run social events and Montessori training mornings, where parents can understand how teaching is delivered. Parents also have regular opportunities to look through their children's development folders. Parents say staff care well for children and, as a result, they are happy, learning and developing confidence. This supports children's readiness for school. Children generally settle quickly and happily into pre-school life. However, parents are not fully involved in this process to make settling in as quick and easy as possible.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager works directly with the children every day and, as a result, is able to quickly identify any key strengths or weaknesses in staff's day-to-day practice. She uses supervision to identify any training needs and encourages staff's professional development. Staff attend specialist courses, such as 'Understanding Autism', which enhance their practice and enable them to meet children's needs more effectively. The manager monitors whether children are working within the expected developmental range and identifies any gaps in the learning of individuals or groups of children. The manager works closely with other professionals to ensure the individual needs of children are consistently met. She arranges swift intervention from specialist staff for children who require additional support. Staff are knowledgeable about how to safeguard children; they all receive regular training and know what to do if they have concerns about a child.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY403015
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	962879
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Sophie Hardie
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2014
Telephone number	02083988104

Claygate Montessori School registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register in 2009. The setting receives early education funding for children aged three and four years. The setting supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children learning English as an additional language. The setting is open each weekday from 9am to 3:30pm during term time only. It employs four members of staff. The manager holds a Montessori qualification at level 4, two staff have early years qualifications at level 3 and one has a qualification at level 2.

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