

Blue Planet Montessori Nursery School

Michenden Sports Complex, Bramley Road, London, N14 4HL



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

17 March 2015

18 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
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

- Children's independence during activities is exceptionally high. This is because staff actively encourage them to freely choose their own activities from the wide range available.
- Children are very confident, and interact and negotiate with their friends regarding their play. They behave exceptionally well because staff teach them to respect their environment and each other.
- Children have very secure attachment with staff, which successfully promotes their emotional well-being.
- The Montessori approach is integrated well alongside the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff provide a good balance of activities, resulting in children making good progress in all areas of learning.
- Staff are highly effective in supporting children's care routines. They ensure children are given good healthy choices at meal times.
- Management provide regular supervision for staff and use this opportunity to plan and identify their training needs. This enhances the quality of teaching and outcomes for children.
- Staff have established good partnerships with parents. Consequently, children benefit from the continuity of learning between the home and nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss opportunities at times to fully extend children's learning, particularly during child-initiated activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's learning opportunities, particularly during child-initiated activities, by offering suitable challenges to further widen children's skills and knowledge.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff interacting indoors and out in the garden.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents to seek their views about the nursery.
- The inspector held discussion with the manager, staff and children and reviewed the safety measures in place to keep children safe.
- The inspector sampled several policies and learning journals for the children.

Inspector

Natasha Blackwell

Inspection findings

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

Staff are skilled in ensuring they provide children with abundant opportunities to choose their own activities and resources. For example, children create their own ideas by using dust pans as shovels for digging in the mud. This promotes children's imaginative skills as they engage in role play. Staff promote children's positive interactions during play, resulting in them making good progress in their personal, social and emotional development. Children are able to celebrate and share their experiences with parents. For example, staff display children's work around the setting and encourage children to bring in items from home. They welcome parents to lead an activity, such as a music session; all of which promotes children's sense of belonging. Staff carry out ongoing observations and assessments of children's learning to help them plan their next steps. Consequently, children are making good progress and acquiring the necessary skills for school.

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

Children show high levels of self-control during activities and are confident in social situations. For example, children share ideas and communicate effectively with others on how best to position blocks to make a model. Staff effectively promote children's growing awareness of safety and being healthy. For example, staff offer nutritional snacks to promote children's understanding of healthy food choices, such as a selection of fruits and wholemeal wraps. Staff further offer children child-sized cutlery to enable them to prepare their own snacks, which helps to promote their independence skills. Staff provide a welcoming and highly stimulating environment for children to explore safely, for example as they transport equipment between areas. Staff implement a strong key-person system, which helps to prepare children emotionally for their next stage of learning.

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

The manager effectively oversees children's learning and welfare needs. She ensures staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures by attending relevant training. As a result, staff are able to describe signs that would give them cause for concern. The manager ensures the safety of the premises by completing regular risk assessments, so children can play in a safe environment. The manager regularly reviews children's progress and ensures staff plan appropriate activities for children's stages of development. The manager demonstrates a good commitment for continuous improvement and works closely with external agencies to enhance the quality of their provision. Staff have built good links with the speech and language therapist and they also invite teachers to the setting to meet children before they start school, which helps to develop their confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	135255
Local authority	Enfield
Inspection number	825609
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Diane Stocking
Date of previous inspection	18 October 2011
Telephone number	020 8449 1661

Blue Planet Montessori Nursery School registered in 1999. It operates in Southgate, in the London Borough of Enfield. The provider is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged two, three, and four years. The nursery school opens five days a week during term-time only and children attend a variety of sessions. The provider employs five staff who all hold relevant qualifications at level 3, including specialist Montessori qualifications. The manager holds a relevant degree and has achieved Early Years Professional Status. The nursery adopts a Montessori approach within the curriculum.

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