

# Plympton Montessori Nursery & Kids Club



Plympton Montessori Nursery, Meadowfield Place, Plymouth, Devon, PL7 1XQ

**Inspection date** 3 March 2015  
Previous inspection date 14 June 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children develop strong independence skills. Staff encourage them to complete simple everyday tasks, such as washing their cups, tidying away equipment and dressing themselves for outdoor play.
- Staff provide a strong focus on mathematics. Children develop a good understanding of simple concepts, such as adding, to help them progress to the next stage in their learning.
- Staff effectively support children's emotional development. Consequently, children develop good self-esteem, feel secure and are ready to learn.
- Staff form positive relationships with parents and work together to support children. As a result, children receive consistent care and learning routines.
- The management team supports staff well. Staff take part in regular training courses, which enhances their individual practice and confidence to support children's needs.
- Staff, management and parents work together to self-evaluate the provision to enable them to adapt and continually improve their practice.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- In the pre-school room, staff do not always encourage children to engage in conversations during snack times to practice their language skills in social situations.
- The outdoor areas do not provide many interesting spaces and places that encourage children to explore and investigate the natural environment. This does not fully support children who prefer to learn outdoors.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend snack time routines in the pre-school room to further promote children's language and social skills
- develop the outdoor play space to provide children with more opportunities to explore and investigate.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing outside and indoors, and talked to staff, the manager and the owner.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documents, including a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector considered the views of parents and children through discussions on the day.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team, which included discussions about how they recruit new staff and monitor children's development.

### Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

## Inspection findings

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

Staff offer a broad range of opportunities to extend children's skills and as a result, children make good progress. For example, children listen to informative stories that explain the life cycle of frogs. This helps children to learn about the natural world and helps them learn that print carries meaning, in preparation for reading. Staff teach children to develop early writing skills. They work together to draw pictures and make marks using a range of materials, such as pencils and chalk. Overall, staff teach children to develop good language and communication skills as they play. However, during snack times, staff in the pre-school room do not consistently encourage children to engage in general conversations and interact with others. Staff frequently observe children's development and summarise their achievements to plan for the next steps in their learning. Staff exchange information regularly with parents about their children's progress, which enables parents to support learning at home.

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

Children are happy. This is because staff gather information about their likes and interests before they attend. As a result, children settle well. Individual staff members form close links with children and their families, which help to ensure children receive consistent care. Babies especially benefit from the calm and caring environment staff provide. This helps them to relax and form secure bonds with staff, promoting positive attitudes to learning. Children throughout the nursery develop good physical skills. They enjoy activities that develop their smaller muscles, such as using pegs or threading. Children exercise their whole bodies as they play outside. However, the outdoor areas do not promote children's curiosity to explore their natural environment. Staff are positive role models. They are respectful towards children and as a result, children are kind and courteous to each other.

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

The manager and staff understand their responsibilities to meet the requirements. They receive good support from the owners and achieve this well. The manager has a secure understanding of how to enhance learning opportunities for children. For example, she recognises the limited opportunities for natural exploration in the outdoor area and has plans to make improvements. There are good procedures to recruit new staff safely and monitor their practice. This ensures children continue to receive quality learning experiences and interactions. The manager monitors children's development regularly and works with staff to seek additional support when necessary, such as speech and language therapy. Staff are confident to follow child protection procedures if they have concerns about children's welfare.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	117146
<b>Local authority</b>	Plymouth
<b>Inspection number</b>	840092
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	48
<b>Name of provider</b>	Maureen Taylor & Lawrence Taylor Partnership
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 June 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01752 343127

The nursery registered in 1998. It is situated in the grounds of Yealmpstone Farm School in Plympton, Devon. The nursery is open every day from 7.30am until 6.15pm all year round, except public holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery offers government funded places for two-, three-, and four-year-old children. There are eight members of staff. All hold a relevant childcare qualification to at least level 3. The manager holds Early Years Professional Status, one member of staff has a degree in Early Childhood Studies and another has a relevant foundation degree. The nursery staff follow a Montessori ethos to teaching.

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