

The Maria Montessori Children's House

122-124 Kingston Road, Wimbledon, London, SW19 1LY



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

21 April 2015

23 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Not all staff have a clear knowledge of safeguarding issues or the setting's child protection policy and procedures. Therefore, they rely on senior staff to protect children from harm and safeguard their welfare and well-being.
- Staff do not exchange information effectively with other settings who share the care of children, in order to further support their learning.
- Self-evaluation is not sufficiently robust. Therefore, management do not always identify all weaknesses in practice and put actions in place to ensure improvement.

It has the following strengths

- Staff support children to develop good communication skills. They engage them in conversations during play and children use good vocabulary to share their opinions.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff seek information from parents and share activity ideas they can do with their children at home. This promotes children's individual learning needs well.
- Staff provide a wide range of resources, inside and outside, and use them to further extend children's play and learning.
- Staff support children's independence well. They ensure all activities are at children's height so children can choose what they want to do and select resources for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure all staff receive appropriate training and understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, to enable them to protect children from harm

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

- develop further the partnerships with all other settings that children attend, to ensure continuity of learning and to maximise their progress
- strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of all areas of practice to ensure that weaknesses are quickly identified and addressed.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- ensure all staff receive training on the written statement of procedures to be followed to safeguard children from abuse or neglect and know what to do to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in a range of activities and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager and held a meeting with her.
- The inspector saw evidence of Disclosure and Barring Service checks and suitability, qualifications and training records for staff.
- The inspector looked at a range of policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Marvet Gayle

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Staff promote children's mathematical knowledge well. For example, staff supported them with counting and asked 'If I take three, how many will you have left?' They use questions to promote children's language and help them answer with more than one word. Consequently, children make effective progress in their learning from their starting points when they first attend. Therefore, children develop the skills needed for future learning in school. Staff respond to children's interests, allowing them to choose the activities they wish to engage with. They extend their learning by talking about what they are doing. This promotes children's thinking well. Staff provide a resource-rich environment, to capture children's interests and stimulate their learning and enjoyment. Staff provide a range of construction materials, allowing children to build and work together, sparking their imaginations during play.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Management do not thoroughly safeguard children's well-being because some staff do not have a confident understanding of policies and procedures. Nevertheless, staff are very caring. They are attentive to the children's needs and, as a result, children form strong attachments with staff and other children. Staff encourage and praise children's achievements, which raises their self-esteem and confidence. Staff promote children's good health. They enjoy playing outside daily, developing their physical skills. Staff provide fresh drinking water and fresh fruits and vegetables to promote children's health and well-being. Staff carry out regular fire drills and teach children about keeping safe. Staff share information with other early years settings children attend, through their parents. They have not fully considered ways to seek direct contact with the other settings. As a result, staff do not do all they can to ensure continuity of care and learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

Management do not use monitoring and evaluation effectively to develop the quality of the nursery and meet all legal requirements. In particular, some staff have not updated safeguarding training and do not fully understand the safeguarding policy and procedures. Although they have some knowledge of child protection, they rely on management and other staff to protect children from harm. Nevertheless, children make good progress in their learning and benefit from the support of qualified staff. Staff update their teaching skills through continuous training. As a result, the monitoring and assessment of children's progress are strong and staff ensure children's learning is developing effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	138248
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	841308
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	The Maria Montessori Children's House Wimbledon Ltd
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2009
Telephone number	020 8543 6353

The Maria Montessori Children's House registered in 1999. It is located in Wimbledon, in the London Borough of Merton. The nursery serves the local area and opens five days a week during school term times only. Sessions are from 9.15am to 3pm Monday and Tuesday, and from 9.15 to 12.15 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. There are six members of staff, most of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3 and above. The nursery provides funded early education for three and four-year old children. The nursery operates in line with the Montessori educational philosophy.

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