

# Bright Sparks Montessori School

Gilbert Road, Frimley, Surrey, GU16 7RE



## Inspection date

5 May 2015

Previous inspection date

4 November 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- The provider has not ensured that the correct protocols are followed to check the suitability of new staff. As a result, staff without Disclosure and Barring Service checks work unsupervised with the children.
- Staff do not have sufficient knowledge of how to safeguard children. They do not know possible indicators that a child might be at risk of harm or what to do in the event of any concerns. This compromises children's welfare.
- Staff do not always organise routines effectively to ensure children are able to choose toys to extend their play and learning, particularly in the outside area. As a result, children do not make the best possible progress in their physical development.
- Links with other early years settings children attend do not always help to target a joined-up approach to progress their learning and development

### It has the following strengths

- Staff and children form positive relationships with each other. Children settle well as staff provide cuddles and reassurance to them. This helps children develop a sense of emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. They say that regular exchanges of information ensure that they are well-informed about their children's learning and development.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement robust systems to determine the suitability of all staff, including gaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check for all new members of staff
- ensure that all staff are trained to identify and act on any indications that a child may be suffering from harm
- improve the organisation of the outside play area so that children are able to independently access toys and resources to develop their physical skills.

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

- extend the range of information shared with other early years settings children attend to routinely include details on children's learning and development
- make better use of ongoing self-evaluation to identify areas where improvement is needed.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of staff suitability and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.

## Inspector

Tara Naylor

## Inspection findings

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

Children are able to choose independently from the variety of toys and resources in the inside area, which adequately motivates them in their play. However, in the outside play area, staff limit children's access to some toys as they store resources, such as large ride on toys, where children cannot access them independently. Therefore, children are not always able to develop their physical play. Some effective teaching takes place. For example, younger children enjoy learning about the differences in coloured worms as staff teach them about 'big' and 'little'. This supports children's mathematical development sufficiently. Observations and assessments are carried out by staff and the manager to ensure that children generally make appropriate progress. Staff have established relationships with other settings. However, they do not always gather sufficient information from these settings to ensure consistency in supporting children's progress.

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

The lack of effective suitability checking and the weaknesses in monitoring staff practice mean that children's safety and well-being are not promoted sufficiently. Some staff do not have sufficient safeguarding knowledge and are not aware of the procedure for keeping children safe. Staff do, however, take appropriate precautions to ensure that the premises are safe and secure. They assess risks and take action to minimise these. Staff have completed first-aid training. Therefore, they know how to administer medical treatment in the event of an emergency. Staff use some routines to help older children to confidently learn self-care skills. This helps them to be prepared for school. Staff talk to children about what is right and wrong, encouraging them to adopt positive behaviour when playing with their friends.

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

The provider does not have a sufficient understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. A number of welfare requirements are not met. The provider fails to implement robust recruitment and suitability procedures. She has not checked all staff's suitability correctly, including those who are newly appointed. This means children are not safeguarded. Staff attend some training but, overall, this is not successful in ensuring consistency in teaching or knowledge of safeguarding. The manager uses feedback from staff and parents, and her own observations, to review the quality of the provision. However, she does not always use this information to make changes to improve outcomes for children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY334579
<b>Local authority</b>	Surrey
<b>Inspection number</b>	827381
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	56
<b>Name of provider</b>	Deborah Ann Sharpe
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 November 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	01276 677415

Bright Sparks Montessori School registered in 2006. It is located in Camberley, Surrey and is open Monday to Friday, during term time only, from 9am until 1pm or 9.20am until 1.20pm. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four. There are 13 staff, of whom 12 hold relevant childcare qualifications between Level 2 and Level 5. The nursery has achieved accreditation through the Surrey County Council Early Years Quality Assurance Scheme.

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