

Lillingtons Montessori Nursery

20 Chudleigh Road, London, SE4 1JW



Inspection date

20 May 2015

Previous inspection date

29 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children's communication and language development is very effectively supported in the excellent language-rich environment. Staff use their voices and facial expressions to promote engagement and the recognition of sounds and letters.
- Staff support children's growing independence extremely well through challenge and motivational learning opportunities. As a result, children are confident and self-assured. However, the management recognises younger children's independence is not always fully promoted.
- Staff carry out robust risk assessments to ensure children are kept safe and secure. As a result, they give children's safety a high priority without restricting their independent exploration.
- The staff have a strong and caring ethos that puts children at the centre of everything they do. Consequently, children behave well and follow the rules and boundaries for acceptable behaviour. Continual positive praise, enthusiastic encouragement and meaningful targeted support, successfully promote children's self-esteem.
- Highly effective and frequent communication with parents ensures that children's learning needs are identified from the beginning and are supported throughout their time at the nursery.
- The highly inspirational manager has a strong drive for maintaining the highest levels of achievement. She ensures her self-evaluation is rigorous by monitoring practice and includes the views of staff, parents and children when evaluating the practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop ways to increase opportunities for the younger children to develop their independence skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all of the nursery rooms and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting and spoke with the provider and staff throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation, checked evidence of suitability and the qualifications of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Zalihe Mehmet-Emin

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is excellent because the environment offers children varied and imaginative learning experiences that inspire them to become active and inquisitive learners. This enables children to make the best possible progress towards the early learning goals and prepares them very well for school. They have time to become deeply involved in activities, which encourages them to concentrate and persist in their learning. Staff provide a strong focus on mathematics. For example, children develop a good understanding of the concept of numbers and differences in height and width because they enjoy building different sized blocks, forming lines from the thickest to the thinnest. Staff effectively observe, assess and plan for children's individual needs and next stage of development. Planning always relates to the interests and needs of individual children. As a result, children are making exceptional progress in their learning and development.

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

Children form close, positive and excellent relationships with their key person and other staff at the nursery. Children feel very secure because staff work closely in partnership with parents to ensure they receive continuity in their care and learning. Home visits help children become familiar with staff and tailored settling-in procedures help children to settle very quickly. Children learn very good personal hygiene routines which help them to be independent in their self-care when they move on to school. Staff effectively support children's physical development and understanding of leading healthy lifestyles at every opportunity. They ensure that children have as much access as possible to the outdoor environment. The garden is exceptionally well-resourced which encourages children to investigate and explore the natural environment. As a result, they access a full range of activities outdoors which covers all areas of learning very successfully.

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

The excellent leadership and management plays a key role in ensuring that staff practice is of the highest quality. The highly effective management team has a secure understanding of its responsibilities in meeting the legal requirements. Staff are extremely well supported through weekly team meetings, individual supervision and appraisals. The manager closely monitors staff practice and provides them with regular opportunities for training and professional development. Recruitment procedures are robust. All staff receive a full induction and ongoing mentoring support. Therefore, staff are highly motivated and the exceptional quality of teaching motivates and engages children in their learning. Safeguarding arrangements are extremely well-established to protect children. Staff understand the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about children, which supports their welfare and well-being.

Setting details

Unique reference number	129031
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	846337
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Babs Lilly Lillington
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2011
Telephone number	020 8690 2184

Lillingtons Montessori Nursery registered in 2000. It is located in the Ladywell area of Lewisham. The nursery opens each weekday, 48 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 4pm. The nursery is funded to provide free early years education to children aged three and four years. There are five members of staff, including the registered provider. Of these, one holds a Level 4 qualification and all other staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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