

Casa dei Bambini

St. Johns Hall, St. Johns Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 0HF



Inspection date

10 June 2015

Previous inspection date

5 October 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children show they feel very safe and secure in the nursery and arrangements for safeguarding the children are robust. All staff have a very good understanding of child protection procedures and their roles and responsibilities.
- The management team demonstrates a strong commitment to provide a high-quality provision. There are effective systems to monitor and evaluate staff practice, through performance management and supervisions, to identify ongoing training needs. Staff attend training to increase their professional development, which has a very good impact on the learning experiences they offer children.
- Overall, the quality of teaching throughout the nursery is very good. Staff ensure all children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning.
- Children form strong attachments to staff which help them develop confidence and self-esteem. This helps them to learn effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not always ensure all of the younger children are thoroughly engaged and motivated with the resources and activities.
- The children thoroughly enjoy their time in the outside area. However, it is not used to its full potential to enable all children to access to it more often.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enable staff to challenge younger children's learning further, through an improved range of stimulating and interesting resources and effective interaction
- provide further opportunities for all children to make more use of the outdoor area.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including safeguarding procedures, and looked at children's online assessment records.
- The inspector observed staff interaction with the children during activities inside and in the outside play area.
- The inspector and manager undertook a joint observation of a planned activity.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Alison Large

Inspection findings

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

Throughout the nursery, staff create an environment where the atmosphere is positive and encouraging. Staff assess and plan effectively to ensure activities and learning experiences fully support children's interests and the next steps in their learning. Children benefit from their time at the nursery and enjoy their learning. They progress well in the learning environments provided by staff. Staff promote children's language skills well to extend their thinking, creativity and communication skills. They are confident to question and use discussion to extend children's learning further during activities. During creative play, children are able to experiment with a variety of textures including play dough, glue and paint. Babies have lots of opportunities to explore resources with their senses. They touch and handle toys, discovering how things make a variety of noises and have different textures. Children become confident in naming colours and shapes, and the older children progress to writing their name and understanding simple mathematics.

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

Children are secure and happy in the welcoming environment that offers a wide variety of resources and play opportunities. The indoor and outdoor play areas are well organised to help children develop their physical skills. The nursery provides a good variety of healthy and nutritious meals and snacks, which are freshly cooked. Staff teach children about good hygiene routines and remind them about washing their hands. They support children well as they progress through the different age groups in the nursery. Staff give good preparation and support to the older children as they get ready to move on to school.

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

The well qualified staff team support children's learning well. The manager and the staff have a secure knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are good systems in place to monitor and evaluate the setting, to ensure management highlights strengths and areas for development. The manager uses a very effective monitoring process to ensure all children are making good progress. Very good partnerships between the setting and the parents ensure they share relevant information. Parents express confidence in the good standard of care and communication. They recognise this helps prepare their children for the future.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297374
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	837644
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	95
Name of provider	Hartley House Montessori Ltd
Date of previous inspection	5 October 2010
Telephone number	01962 855412

Casa dei Bambini is one of two settings run by Hartley House Montessori Ltd. It registered in 2004 and is in Winchester, Hampshire. The nursery is open Monday to Friday all year, from 8am to 6pm. It receives funding for early education sessions for two, three and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 19 staff; of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery operates in line with the Montessori method of teaching.

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