

Butterflies Montessori School



Warley Primary School, Chindits Lane, Warley, BRENTWOOD, Essex, CM14 5LF

Inspection date	11 June 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff have an excellent knowledge and understanding of how children learn. They use this to provide highly stimulating and engaging educational programmes, which spark children's imagination and curiosity. As a result, all children make rapid progress given their starting points and capabilities.
- All staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children form secure emotional attachments. They provide an exceptionally strong base for children's developing independence and exploration.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional and a particular strength at the nursery. Staff entirely value parents as partners and place the highest priority on working closely with them.
- Staff have an extremely comprehensive knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues to effectively promote children's welfare. This means children remain safe and healthy as they are exceptionally well protected, both indoors and outdoors.
- Managers show a strong focus and passionate drive to provide excellent care and inspirational learning to children. Every aspect of the provision is superbly monitored, which enables them to exceed the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- inspire children's further understanding of their natural environment by extending their opportunities to participate in nature or woodland activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the school and spoke with the staff.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of a teaching activity with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection, and engaged in discussions with the staff and children.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and checked evidence of staff's suitability and qualifications.

Inspector

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

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

Staff have an excellent understanding of the seven areas of learning, which ensures they are very skilled in planning to meet children's individual needs. Teaching is inspirational as staff use their expert knowledge to assess and monitor children's progress. Consequently, all children thrive and make very good progress in their learning. Staff have secure knowledge of the characteristics of effective learning and use this to underpin learning and development. Conversation is a consistently strong aspect of the school. Staff interact exceptionally well, making excellent use of open-ended questions and encouraging children to solve problems. The school promotes a flexible approach where children direct their own learning. As a result, they display extremely high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Children benefit from use of the exciting outdoor learning environment. However, there is scope to enhance this aspect of the provision to provide further opportunities for woodland or nature activities.

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

Children are flourishing in this warm and welcoming environment. They play a large role in their learning and have established very close relationships with all of the staff. Children show confidence and independence as they explore the stimulating environment happily and with self-assurance. They show great respect to each other and behave with consideration and thoughtfulness. For example, children willingly support a younger child to dance and play with them. Staff interact extremely well with children and are excellent role models. They speak calmly and at children's level, and give lots of eye contact. Simple, but clear boundaries are consistently reinforced and children's behaviour is extremely good. They show enthusiasm and are keen to contribute and learn. An excellent key-person system is in place, which ensures that children are emotionally secure and extremely well prepared for when they move on to school.

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

The managers are knowledgeable and have a thorough understanding of their responsibility to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. All staff are appropriately trained in safeguarding, and have a comprehensive understanding of how to implement the policies in place to keep children safe. Children benefit from being cared for by staff that are exceptionally professional, qualified and experienced. The managers are forward thinking and passionate. A focused programme for professional development inspires staff to strive for excellence and, therefore, provide a good quality provision for children. The managers value staff contribution. As a result, staff morale is high. They show a genuine commitment and enthusiasm to their work. Self-evaluation is robust and parents and children are positively encouraged to contribute to the process. Exceptionally strong and highly effective partnerships have been established with parents, ensuring continuity of care for all children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449222
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	930380
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	117
Name of provider	Butterflies Montessori School Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01277 200642

Butterflies Montessori School is managed by joint owners. It opened in 2009 and relocated to its current premises in 2013. The school operates from within the grounds of the Primary School. Butterflies Montessori School is open during term time, from 8.30am until 3.45pm. Of the 20 members of staff who work at the setting, 14 hold relevant qualifications at level 3, 4 and 5, including two staff who hold Early Years Professional status. The school uses the Montessori approach to education.

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