

Overton Children's House

St. Lukes Hall, Winchester Street, Overton, BASINGSTOKE, Hampshire, RG25 3HT



Inspection date	24 September 2015
Previous inspection date	26 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children settle quickly and happily into this calm and organised environment. Behaviour is good. Children form good friendships with staff and playmates, and cooperate well with each other. Staff are sensitive to the children and their individual personalities.
- Children demonstrate increasing levels of independence as they undertake their 'work'. They follow their own interests and develop skills across each area of learning through the broad variety of opportunities. Staff plan carefully to ensure resources are available to interest and extend children's learning effectively.
- The leadership and management team is passionate about the service they offer and clearly strives continuously to develop and build on the good-quality service they provide. Regular and effective staff supervision and training opportunities have resulted in a very motivated workforce that provides a good quality of teaching for children.
- Parents speak very highly about the warm welcome they receive, the very good progress their children make and the confidence they have in the provision.
- Staff encourage children's awareness of healthy lifestyles through conversations throughout the day, good hygiene routines and opportunities for physical activity.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to challenge the quieter children's skills during play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further staff's alertness to the needs of quieter children in the group to ensure that they benefit fully from the rich learning environment available.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises and viewed resources with the deputy manager.
- The inspector observed the children and staff at play.
- The inspector examined records and documents provided by the manager and observed an activity with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the setting with nine parents.
- The inspector read and discussed the setting's self-evaluation with the manager.

Inspector

Lynne Lewington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management has addressed the weaknesses from their last inspection thoroughly. Staff have attended behaviour management training. Positive relationships are in place with local schools and services relevant to the nursery. This helps to promote continuity of care and learning. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities well and actively participate in training opportunities. This has a positive impact on the quality of the provision. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are secure in their knowledge of child protection issues and the reporting procedures to follow if they have concerns in order to protect children from further harm. The views of staff, parents, children and professionals all inform the continuous evaluation of the service. This aids the management to identify improvements which significantly benefit the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff create an interesting and challenging environment for children. Children enjoy using the carefully prepared resources. They demonstrate high levels of skill and concentration as they wash and dress dolls, thread, count and use sandpaper letters and numbers. Children use all of their senses to investigate different materials. They feel the texture of the fruit, smell it and taste it at snack time. They enjoy painting with the bright fresh paint at the easel. Children learn to share, take turns, and leave resources ready for someone else to use. They sit close to the adults as they share the enjoyment of books. Later, they recall the story independently as they look at the books in a quiet moment. Staff encourage children to use their mathematical knowledge in their activities. For example, at snack time, they talk about shape and count the pieces of fruit they have cut.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are understanding and supportive. They help children and parents adapt as children develop new skills. The premises are attractive, secure and well maintained, providing a good learning environment both indoors and in the garden. Children choose what they want to use from a good range of resources that provide them with a variety of challenges. Staff teach children to manage risks effectively as they learn about safe behaviour and how to use knives effectively to cut their snack. Staff are calm, positive role models. As a result, children's behaviour is good.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff monitor children's development carefully to ensure their good progress and readiness for starting school. The manager ensures all staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They also share this knowledge with parents. This contributes to the positive outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421268
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1014167
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	Marianne Preece
Date of previous inspection	26 February 2015
Telephone number	01256770720

Overton Children's House registered in 2011. It is one of two privately owned Montessori settings and operates from a community hall, in Overton, near Basingstoke, Hampshire. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am until 3pm and on Wednesday and Friday from 9am until 12.30pm during term time only. The setting employs nine staff, seven of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. One holds Qualified Teacher Status, one holds a qualification at level 5, and five staff hold qualifications at level 4.

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