Casa del Bambini (Montessori)



Beechcroft, Ryde United Reformed Church, Upton Road, Ryde, Isle Of Wight, PO33 3LE

Inspection date	3 November 2015
Previous inspection date	19 January 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2	
	Previous inspection:	Good	2	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2	
Quality of teaching, learni	ng and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, be	haviour and v	velfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children			Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff give excellent attention to promoting children's personal development, behaviour and welfare. Children build exceptional bonds with the nurturing and caring staff. Children feel safe and secure, and develop their confidence and motivation to learn.
- Children make good progress in their learning. Staff fully understand how children learn best. Overall, staff use good teaching skills when supporting children in their play.
- Effective performance management of staff means good attention is given to enhancing skills, such as through training and the monitoring of teaching. This has a positive effect on how staff promote children's communication and language, for example, through a language enrichment group.
- Staff form effective partnerships with children's parents, who speak positively about the setting. Plenty of information is available for them about their children's development. Parents work successfully with each key person to ensure their child's care and educational needs are met well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- During some planned activities and children's spontaneous play, staff do not always make the most of opportunities to challenge and extend children's learning according to their individual abilities.
- Staff do not always help children to develop further their early writing skills, particularly those who are more able.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the quality of teaching to ensure it is of consistent high quality and responsive to children's individual needs
- enhance opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills, particularly those who are more able.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's play activities indoors and out, and looked at the available resources.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nominated person/manager about leadership and management, had a meeting with the local authority designated officer about safeguarding, and discussed with the manager how they evaluate staff practice.
- The inspector had a discussion with a small number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled and read relevant documentation.

Inspector

Loraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The small, nursery team is led by a competent, experienced manager. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and what to do if they are concerned about a child or adult. Parental complaints are fully investigated and thoroughly recorded. There are effective systems for the safe recruitment of staff, and to ensure each person is suitable and fully aware of their responsibilities. The conscientious staff team has high aspirations. There are good methods of self-evaluation, including seeking the views of parents and children. The manager and staff monitor children's development regularly to ensure children make continuously good progress from the outset. Staff liaise effectively with other agencies and professionals, making sure children's needs are met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching and learning is good. The staff successfully observe, assess and plan children's next steps in learning, based on their individual needs and interests. They provide plenty of activities which fully engage the children, who are keen and eager to learn. For example, at inspection, children were engaged and showed imagination and skill during a firework printing activity. Older children actively learn about letters and sounds, developing their early reading skills during a well-managed whole group time. Overall, staff provide effective teaching to individual children during their freely chosen play. For example, children learn about sizes as they build with graded building cubes. Younger children develop their senses through touch. They explore with a variety of materials, such as oats and rice. Staff interact purposefully with them, building on what children know and can do, particularly in developing their communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have high levels of confidence and even the newest children develop secure bonds with the affectionate and very caring staff. They have high expectations of children's behaviour and gently give them clear boundaries. Children behave exceptionally well. Older children play extremely harmoniously with their friends and are supported very effectively by the staff to develop excellent social skills, such as during a teddy bears' picnic role play activity. Children have regular access to outdoor play. They develop good physical skills and learn to manage risks. Extremely well-managed mealtimes meet children's dietary needs. Parents receive excellent advice on healthy foods, for example, the sugar content of snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including the more able, make good progress from their starting points. They develop essential skills for their future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY344219

Local authority Isle of Wight

Inspection number 1030921

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 35

Number of children on roll 37

Name of provider Christine Archer

Date of previous inspection 19 January 2010

Telephone number 07766904833

Casa del Bambini (Montessori) registered at these premises in 2006. It is a privately owned setting and operates from the ground floor of a large detached house situated within the grounds of the United Reformed Church in Ryde, on the Isle of Wight. There is an outdoor play area. Operational hours are Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 2.45pm, during term time only. The provider/manager works alongside four members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Aspects of the Montessori method of teaching are followed. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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