

The Village Montessori Nursery



Theydon Bois Village Hall, Coppice Row, Theydon Bois, Essex, CM16 7ER

Inspection date	9 December 2015
Previous inspection date	13 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager's monitoring of the provision and the tracking of children's progress is highly effective. She has a very clear picture of the overall progress of the group and of each individual child.
- Practitioners know the children exceptionally well. They use their detailed understanding of children's interests and experiences very effectively to support teaching and learning. The planning for learning is precisely matched to children's specific learning needs.
- Practitioners use the daily routine effectively to promote children's personal, social and emotional development. They make daily events interesting, exciting and meaningful. Children are really eager to participate and are confident in expressing their thoughts and ideas.
- Partnerships with parents are extremely effective. They speak highly of the provision for their children and the team of practitioners who work with them. Parents are very well informed about their children's progress and are offered useful suggestions to help them promote children's learning at home.
- Children are very independent and confidently make decisions about their play. Practitioners use whatever the child is doing to extend learning according to the child's specific next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the relationships with the other settings that children attend, in order to offer seamless continuity in children's education.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery provider, who manages the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and read the letters sent in, taking account of the views expressed.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The leadership and management are highly effective. The drive and ambition to achieve the best possible outcomes for every child is communicated effectively to the whole team. The manager uses supervision to support practitioners to develop their skills and to refine their teaching. The team is very experienced, well qualified and they all continue to attend training events. Practitioners successfully evaluate the provision, using a wide range of sources of evidence, including the views of parents and children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The team understands how to recognise possible signs that give concern and how to respond to these swiftly. All practitioners use meticulous documentation very effectively to underpin their work. Partnerships with local schools and most other providers are successful, however, they acknowledge they have not been successful in replicating this with every possible setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Practitioners are alert to children's individual needs. The one-to-one working is exceptionally well matched to children's specific needs. Teaching consistently builds on what children know and can do. Expectations of children are high but always appropriate. Practitioners achieve an excellent balance of challenge and opportunities for children to succeed. Children readily engage in the varied experiences. They make music to accompany their Christmas singing as they eagerly explore the sounds of the bells. During the imaginative play, practitioners promote children's thinking skills superbly. Children enthusiastically recall their experiences and bring these into their play. Practitioners offer children a wealth of experiences and opportunities to be creative and to share what they know. In the outdoor area, children have fun as they pretend to shop at the Christmas market. Inside, children readily engage in writing for purpose. They use their mathematical skills as they sort and classify objects. Children busily search the nursery and use their magnets to find as many things as possible made from metal.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They learn the simple rules and how to behave towards others. This underpins their relationships and contributes significantly to the positive learning environment. Practitioners support children superbly inviting them to be role models for one another. Children are incredibly independent. They take responsibility for small tasks with little or no prompting. Children's health is promoted exceptionally well. The chef takes great care in preparing nutritious meals and snacks. She involves the children in some of the preparation and there is plenty of knowledgeable and informed discussion around the meal table about food and health. The nursery has a wealth of resources that children thoroughly enjoy using. Practitioners use the equipment exceptionally well to inspire curiosity and sustain concentration.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points and are very well prepared for the next stage of learning in school. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language demonstrate their enthusiasm for learning and a desire to succeed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402282
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	855424
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	Deborah Palmer
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2011
Telephone number	07930313075

The Village Montessori Nursery was registered in 1999. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 4 and above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.15am until 1.15pm, additional hours finishing at 3pm are available if there is sufficient demand. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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