

Montrose Pre-School

Methodist Church, Locket Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 7ND



Inspection date

9 December 2015

Previous inspection date

10 May 2011

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, 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

- Close working partnerships are well established with health and other early years professionals. This leads to effective individual support for children with identified and specific needs so they get the right help in a timely way.
- Communication between staff and parents is good. There are daily opportunities to share information and staff provide parents with a written report each half term about their child's progress. These and other measures ensure the interests and needs of children are well known and promoted.
- Staff are good role models. They are warm and caring towards the children and are clear about what is and is not acceptable behaviour. As a result, children are well behaved and are learning to respect each other and negotiate to resolve minor differences.
- Children have access to a well-resourced outdoor play area which they fully embrace and enjoy. They initiate their own play, learn to work together and take turns.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some resources are in poor condition and this means that at times children's play and exploration is not fully supported.
- The process of identifying any gaps in learning between different groups of children is not yet established. This does not help leaders and managers to take steps to narrow any gaps between groups of children at the earliest opportunity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- replace resources which are in poor condition, incomplete or broken to ensure that children's play and exploration is supported by resources which always effectively promotes learning.
- take steps to identify and narrow the gaps in achievement between different groups of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager jointly observed two planned activities.
- The inspector carried out observations of children's activities and routines both indoors and in the garden.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including staff qualification and suitability records, public liability insurance, children's assessments and planning records.
- The inspector spoke with parents, children, staff and managers at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Gillian Karen Joseph

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff members have attended safeguarding training. On-going training is in place for the member of staff who has lead responsibility for safeguarding. These measures help to ensure the staff team understand the wider aspects of safeguarding. Staff understand how to keep children safe and the importance of monitoring children's regular attendance. The manager ensures all staff receive regular supervision. This helps to monitor performance, identify training needs and promote good practice across the nursery. It also means that children's individual needs and progress are regularly reviewed. However, a system to review any gaps in learning and development of different groups of children is not in yet place. The manager engages with parents, staff and children as part of the self-evaluation process and their views contribute and help drive the programme of improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff carry out regular observations and assessments of children's learning. They use these effectively to develop a programme of learning which reflects each child's interests, needs and what needs to happen next. Children enjoy playing and learning both indoors and outside in the garden. They explore their environment and initiate their own play. Children share their thoughts as they paint with water on the fences and water the plants. The staff know what children can do already well. They encourage them to persevere when they encounter challenges. For example, when children attempt to balance on the scooter and find it tricky staff reassure them. They provide children with just enough support to re-instil their confidence and have another go. Children's specific educational needs are promoted well because staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of how to support their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well. The settling-in procedure has been reviewed to ensure that the numbers of new children who start pre-school at the same time are few. This helps lessen the upset to children on separation from parents and enables them to form secure and warm relationships with a familiar adult. Children show a growing sense of independence. They learn to put on their own coats, hats and shoes as they get ready to play outside. Staff talk to the children and their parents about healthy eating and make sure that all snacks are healthy and balanced.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. The firmly established partnerships with other professionals and parents ensure children receive the right help and support to meet their individual learning needs. Children develop the range of skills they need in readiness for their next stage of learning, including the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	509061
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1034705
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	2 - 5
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Montrose Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2011
Telephone number	020-8861-0913

Montrose Pre-School was registered in 1992 and operates from a Methodist Church in Wealdstone. Children have access to two rooms in the church building and a garden. The group is open term time only Monday to Friday. It offers a morning session from 08.45 to 11.45 and an afternoon session from 12.00 to 15.00. There are five staff, four of whom hold a relevant early years qualification. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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