

Lindfield Montessori Nursery



The Cricket Pavilion, Lindfield Common, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 2EG

Inspection date	13 January 2016
Previous inspection date	2 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 management team has an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. All staff are highly committed to providing a service of exceptional quality. The management team and staff strive for excellence in the care and education they provide to children.
- Staff plan extremely interesting and highly stimulating activities, and prepare children for starting school exceptionally well.
- Inspiring activities motivate children's learning extremely well. Children engage in highly purposeful activities that help them develop excellent skills for the next stage in their learning.
- Staff form highly effective partnerships with parents and keep them very well informed about their children's progress. They involve parents in their children's learning exceptionally well.
- Children's individual needs are met exceptionally well. Staff work in excellent partnerships with parents and professionals to provide exceptional continuity in meeting children's additional and unique needs.
- Staff complete extremely accurate assessments of children's learning. The managers monitor individual and groups of children's progress extensively. This helps them to very quickly identify and address any gaps in children's achievements.
- Children's behaviour is exceptionally positive. Staff provide an exemplary role model for children. They are extremely supportive and provide respectful interactions, and excel at promoting children's well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- take all possible steps to further enhance the already highly effective self-evaluation process.

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 took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the setting manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner and managers, and viewed a sample of documentation, such as the self-evaluation and the suitability of staff to work at the nursery.

Inspector

Eve Lumb

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team reviews the quality of teaching and the provision extremely well. It involves staff, children and parents in this process. For example, children have opportunities to offer their feedback through a 'children's council'. The management team continues to explore other ways to build on the already excellent quality of evaluation. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe and report any concerns. They are exceptionally well supported by the management team. Staff complete a wide range of in-house and external training to continually update their knowledge and skills to the highest standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children sustain excellent interest and concentration during their play and learning. They explore, investigate and create with excellent enthusiasm. For example, they use a wide range of different resources, materials and objects, such as metal and magnets. This helps children develop their highly effective understanding of how things work. Staff promote children's excellent language skills. For example, they use extensive and sensitive questioning to extend children's excellent thinking skills and ideas, and introduce a wide range of words. This helps to develop children's excellent understanding of what words mean. Children learn about letters and their sounds and use a wide range of resources to develop their early literacy skills, such as purposeful writing resources. Staff use their excellent observations of children to plan for their next steps in learning highly effectively. This helps all children to make rapid progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop excellent relationships with each other and staff. They are extremely happy and settled, and learn to respect each other highly. For instance, children played carefully near a 'castle' made with large construction bricks. Children develop excellent levels of confidence. They learn to be very independent and make their own choices from the resources and activities. Children show an excellent understanding of how to manage risks. For example, they know to handle scissors extremely safely. Children challenge their large physical skills. For instance, they develop excellent balance and coordination using equipment. Children develop an exceptional understanding of taking care of their bodies. For example, they know that they need to wash their hands to prevent germs spreading. Staff help children develop an excellent understanding of the world they live in. For instance, they learn purposefully about modern technology and develop an exceptional understanding of people's differences.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those with additional needs, make rapid and sustained progress from their starting points. They develop excellent skills for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113580
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	825039
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	62
Name of provider	Carol Anne Benson
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2010
Telephone number	01444 484262

Lindfield Montessori Nursery registered in 1998 and operates from a cricket pavilion on Lindfield Common in Lindfield, West Sussex. The nursery opens from 9am to 3pm during term time only. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are nine members of staff employed to work with the children, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery follows the Montessori teaching method.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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