

Braywood Montessori School

Braywood Memorial Hall, Fifield Road, Fifield, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 2NX



Inspection date

25 February 2016

Previous inspection date

15 November 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

- Staff plan for children's next steps for learning through precise assessment. All children, including those with additional needs and those who are learning English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They provide a broad range of interesting activities that challenge children and prepare them well for school. For example, children gain an understanding of time and number as they excitedly join in with outdoor games and experiences.
- Children develop strong bonds with staff. Staff listen to children and speak to them in a respectful manner. This promotes children's social and emotional development well.
- Staff complete in-depth risk assessments to help ensure that the environment is secure and free from hazards.
- Staff have established good partnerships with other professionals. They share clear and informative information to provide continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The strategies to monitor the quality of staff practice do not focus sharply enough on all aspects of teaching, to promote higher levels of achievement for all children.
- Staff are not always fully successful in making sure that all parents have a clear understanding of the plans for their children's future learning, in order to continue their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop ways of communicating with parents about the plans for their children's future learning
- focus on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level through further evaluation of the impact of staff practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery and invited the manager to take part in a joint observation.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector looked at various documents, including policies, procedures, risk assessments, staff training records, records for the children and evidence for the suitability of staff.
- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction with children.

Inspector

Jane Franks

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a secure understanding of child protection procedures. They attend training to keep their knowledge up to date and are well aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child in their care. The manager follows robust recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff working with children are suitable to do so. The manager and staff team demonstrate a very good capacity for improvement. They regularly reflect on the service they provide and actively seek the views of children and parents to help improve the provision. The manager provides guidance on practice and supports the professional development of all staff. Staff research information and attend courses that help to build on their knowledge and skills and improve children's experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff quickly and accurately identify children's starting points. They closely observe children as they play and meet regularly to discuss children's progress. Staff have an accurate understanding of what each child can do, to identify and swiftly close any gaps in their development. Staff make good use of questioning, for example, to help promote children's communication and language skills. They provide many opportunities for children to think critically and make their own decisions. Children learn letters and sounds and proudly write their name; they are thoroughly pleased with their achievements. Partnerships with the local schools are effective in providing a smooth move from the nursery to the school environment. Children demonstrate a positive attitude to learning and are confident in their abilities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at this welcoming nursery. Staff spend time getting to know children well and support them to settle and feel secure. Staff have clear expectations of behaviour and are good role models. Children gain a good understanding of how to be healthy and keep safe. For example, they enjoy being active outdoors, learn to make healthy choices and independently see to their own personal care needs. Children benefit from following clear routines. They listen attentively, show a sense of responsibility and independently tidy away their toys. Children gain an awareness of differences within their wider world; for example, they welcome their friends into the setting and celebrate events from various cultures.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. They are motivated, eager to learn and gain key skills to support their future learning. Children are kind, show respect for others and demonstrate good manners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	108465
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	839549
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Georgina Tracey Pitchford
Date of previous inspection	15 November 2011
Telephone number	01628 676717

Braywood Montessori School is privately owned and opened in 1998. It operates from Braywood Memorial Hall, in Fifield, Maidenhead, Berkshire. The nursery opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9am to 12.30pm on Monday and Friday and from 9am until 3.15pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The nursery follows the Montessori approach to education. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four staff working with the children, three of whom hold a recognised early years qualification. The owner has a level 5 management qualification and the deputy hold Early Year Professional Status.

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