

The Psalter Lane Nursery

137 Psalter Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S11 8UX



Inspection date

17 March 2016

Previous inspection date

23 June 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

- The manager and staff team are well qualified and have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching throughout the setting.
- Staff make accurate observations and assessments of each child's learning. This information is used to inform planning that reflects children's individual styles of learning. This helps to engage children effectively and they are motivated to learn. Children make good progress from their starting points. They are taught valuable social skills and are well prepared for school.
- Staff are good role models for behaviour and treat children with respect. Children behave well and happily share toys, take turns and show good manners towards each other. Older children are beginning to develop strong friendships with their peers.
- Partnerships with parents are very good. They speak highly about the staff team and feel actively involved with their children's learning and development. Parents are well informed about their children's progress through daily discussions, reports and regular meetings. Staff use a number of successful methods to enable parents to support and extend their children's learning at home.
- The manager seeks the views of staff, parents and children. She then uses her findings to develop a detailed action plan that sets out priorities for improvement and shows a clear vision for the future.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's individual progress is tracked effectively. However, methods to monitor the progress of different groups of children have yet to be established so that any variations in achievement can be swiftly targeted.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of children's progress to include different groups of children, in order to promote all children's learning to the highest level.

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 manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ruth Moore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Recruitment and vetting processes are robust and help to make sure all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have a clear understanding about child protection issues and the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare. The motivated management team monitors and documents staff practice extremely well. All staff are supported to attend regular training to enhance their knowledge and develop their teaching skills. The manager and staff team fully understand the importance of working together to close gaps in children's development. Staff liaise effectively with parents, external professionals and local schools that children attend. This means disabled children and those with special educational needs receive targeted support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a wide range of challenging and enjoyable experiences that is closely linked to children's individual interests. Children demonstrate good levels of curiosity and confidence. Staff interact with children positively, encouraging them to be inquisitive and independent learners. Children enthusiastically participate in selecting rhymes to sing and books to read. They happily talk about the stories and enjoy sharing them with their friends, staff and visitors. Staff help all children, in particular those who speak English as an additional language, to develop their understanding and speaking and listening skills. Children are well supported to make connections in their learning and use descriptive language effectively to elaborate their ideas. They thoroughly enjoy exploring different ways to construct a car park with wooden blocks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children really enjoy the time they spend in this very homely and welcoming setting. Staff work very closely with parents to ensure that settling-in procedures are tailored to children's individual needs. They gather relevant information about children's interests and routines. Children are also very well supported when they move into new rooms. This helps children to feel emotionally secure. Children follow good hygiene routines and learn the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. Staff chat to children about where their food comes from and explain why it is good for them. Children have regular fresh air and exercise through daily access to a well-resourced outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who receive funded early education, are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. Children have lots of opportunities to practise their early mathematics and literacy skills. This helps to prepare children for more formal learning when they move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300795
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	867267
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	76
Name of provider	Montescola Limited
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2011
Telephone number	0114 2552626

The Psalter Lane Nursery opened in 1966. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Two staff hold Early Years Professional status and two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 6. One holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It also supports disabled children and those with special educational needs and children for whom English is an additional language.

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