

Le Ballon Rouge Montessori Day Nursery

32 Crossfield Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS2 4LS



Inspection date

16 March 2016

Previous inspection date

27 April 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 is fully committed and passionate in their pursuit of excellence. They have an enthusiastic and vibrant drive to maintain the highest levels of achievement for all children.
- Children's progress is monitored comprehensively through the analysis and comparison of groups of children. Any gaps in children's learning are swiftly identified to enable specific programmes of support to be put in place.
- The nursery's special educational needs coordinator is highly proactive. She ensures that children requiring additional support benefit from exactly what they need.
- Children make rapid progress. Staff are expert teachers. They provide a curriculum full of rich, varied and imaginative activities that meet individual children's learning needs.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional. Staff use a wealth of inspiring ways to raise parents' confidence in supporting their child's learning at home. This includes regular stay-and-play sessions, where parents find out how best to support their child's learning through play and positive interaction.
- Children learn to behave exceptionally well. Staff teach children to understand each other's needs, express their own emotions and play well together. Children demonstrate high levels of respect and tolerance for others.
- Partnership working with outside professionals and other providers is exceptional. Information about children's care and learning is shared in great detail. This helps to promote excellent continuity between all of the different settings children attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to focus professional development on enhancing teaching skills as far as possible and on maintaining the excellent outcomes achieved for all children.

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 held discussions with the manager at appropriate times during the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Joanne Barnett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The experienced and well-qualified manager demonstrates an excellent understanding of her role and responsibility to teach children and keep them safe. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust systems are in place to ensure that potential risks to children are identified and minimised quickly. Staff build on excellent practice and further develop their knowledge and understanding, enabling them to fully support the needs of specific children. Children's progress is assessed and evaluated meticulously. Gaps in learning are identified quickly and additional support is put in place. Staff work collaboratively with a range of other professionals. The manager has identified the potential to extend the programme for the professional development of the staff. This is in order to enhance their already excellent knowledge, so that all children's progress continues to be rapid.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are incredibly knowledgeable about how to promote children's learning. They carefully plan and provide a wide range of activities and experiences that meet children's learning needs and promote outstanding achievement. For example, when children cook, they talk confidently and enthusiastically about where the ingredients come from. They skilfully measure ingredients, learning new mathematical language and using this to describe what they are doing. They experiment, using their fingers and hands to explore texture. Staff model what to do and support children to have a go. Younger children have excellent opportunities to take part in activities to help promote their speaking and listening skills using music, books, pictures and props. Staff help them to concentrate, ask simple questions and allow them the time to express their ideas. Staff provide pre-school children with challenges that help to extend their literacy and mathematical skills. For example, they explore a range of different letters and sounds and identify a variety of shapes in the environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The exceptional quality of care practices ensure that children are emotionally secure. A gradual settling-in period is agreed with parents in accordance with their child's needs. Children are very well prepared for a change of room and key person as they progress through the nursery. Highly effective teaching helps children to learn about how to keep themselves safe and healthy. For example, children learn how and why their hearts beat faster after jumping to music, and discuss how their growing muscles make them stronger. Children learn to manage risks for themselves under close supervision of the staff. Their self-confidence is fully supported by staff who continually identify their efforts and achievements. Children's emerging independence is fully supported by staff.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress from their starting points. This includes children who benefit from funded early education, disabled children and those with special educational needs. Children thrive and develop a real thirst for learning. Therefore, all children are exceptionally well prepared for moving on to the next stage of their learning or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119494
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	854147
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 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	112
Name of provider	Le Ballon Rouge Limited
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2010
Telephone number	01702 612445

Le Ballon Rouge Montessori Day Nursery was registered in 1998. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 to 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 52 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 5pm. 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.

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