

# The Chilterns Montessori School

The Pavilion, Park Place, Seer Green, Beaconsfield, HP9 2FJ



<b>Inspection date</b>	24 May 2016
Previous inspection date	1 October 2013

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Children are happy and settled. Staff know them well and engage purposefully with them to promote learning and help all children to make good progress.
- Staff effectively observe and assess children's development, to see how they are achieving and to seek early intervention if needed to meet children's individual needs.
- Children play in a welcoming and child-friendly environment. All areas of the provision, including activities, are fully risk assessed to maintain children's safety.
- Children have formed good relationships with others and share well. Staff support the children's feelings and help them to learn how to behave around others.
- The management team has a good awareness of how to promote safe recruitment. It follows robust recruitment procedures and consistently checks staff suitability, to maintain the well-being of the children.
- Good improvements have been made since the last inspection, to improve self-evaluation. The management team is proactive in reflecting on its practice, to improve the quality of provision for all children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have consistent opportunities to practise their writing skills and develop their understanding of letters and sounds, to further promote this aspect of learning.
- At times, staff miss opportunities to strengthen children's ideas and thoughts through their creative play.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create more opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills during everyday experiences, to strengthen this area of their learning
- enable children to express their thoughts and ideas more consistently as they engage in a variety of activities, to fully promote their creative skills.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities and play experiences available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and jointly observed practice with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents about their views and opinions of the provision.
- The inspector sampled documentation and children's development records.

### Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and staff work well together and form good working relationships. The manager supports staff and monitors their practice well. She encourages them to update their skills and knowledge through training to improve their teaching abilities. The manager monitors children's progress well, through cohort tracking and discussions with staff. This allows her to identify and tackle any gaps in learning. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a confident understanding of their roles and responsibilities for child protection. They are secure in the referral process and regularly attend safeguarding training, to help keep children safe from harm. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are good. Staff now share a detailed amount of information, to enable them all to work together to meet children's learning needs.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff warmly welcome children as they enter the nursery with confidence. Children settle and enjoy a purposeful amount of toys and resources which engage them and provide interest. For example, children enjoy painting and printing with real vegetables. Staff encourage children to be active and develop their physical skills well. For example, children explore on the large equipment in the garden and eagerly participate in ball games. Staff support children's communication, language and mathematical skills well. For instance, as children enjoy circle activities, staff engage them through asking interesting questions, to develop their learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show that they feel safe and secure. Each child's key person helps them to quickly develop strong attachments and settle in, to motivate them to enjoy their learning. Staff encourage children to become independent and take responsibility for themselves, such as when preparing to go outdoors. All children behave well. Staff are effective in modelling respectful relationships and good manners. They promote healthy eating and develop children's understanding of the importance of being active, to develop their physical skills. Children help themselves to healthy snacks of fruit and vegetables, and drink plenty throughout the day.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well in their learning and development and are well-prepared for the next stages in their learning. Children enjoy learning. For example, as they explored soil, they added water and used real objects from everyday life as props, to explore, experiment and develop their interests.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY334508
<b>Local authority</b>	Buckinghamshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1028645
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	26
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Oakwood Nursery Schools Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP526259
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 October 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	01494 672209

The Chilterns Montessori School registered in 2006. It is one of three nurseries owned by Oakwood Nursery Schools Ltd. The nursery is situated in Seer Green, Buckinghamshire and follows the Montessori method of teaching. The nursery opens from 9am to 3.30pm each weekday, during term time only. During school holidays a fun club operates for children up to the age of eight years, from 9am to 3.30pm. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are currently six members of staff working with the children, four of whom have relevant early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager holds a Montessori qualification.

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