

The Grange Montessori

Westcliff Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 9LJ



Inspection date	30 June 2016
Previous inspection date	13 May 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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

- Staff provide children with a good range of interesting activities and resources in a welcoming environment. Children are eager to explore and learn. They make good progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities.
- Staff are deployed effectively to keep children safe. Effective safety procedures and thorough risk assessments help children play safely in the learning environment.
- The manager and staff team are committed to developing and improving the quality of the provision. They have worked hard since their last inspection to review their practice and improve outcomes for children.
- The manager and staff monitor children's progress effectively to identify and plan for their next steps in learning. They share this information with parents and other professionals involved in children's care to help provide consistency in their learning.
- Children develop very good levels of confidence. They behave well and form positive relationships with their key person, staff and each other.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always manage daily routines effectively. Children sometimes wait for extended periods of time and their learning is not fully supported at these times.
- At times, staff do not always extend children's mathematical learning, in particular about size, weight and problem solving.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and develop daily routines to reduce waiting times for children and ensure that staff effectively support their learning at these times
- strengthen opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills further, in particular to learn about size, weight and problem solving.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at convenient times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector viewed documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff, children's records, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Nicola Chambers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend regular safeguarding training to help keep them updated with current legislation and guidance. They have a good knowledge of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Thorough recruitment and vetting processes check staff's suitability to work with children. The enthusiastic manager involves parents, children and staff well in the ongoing evaluation of the nursery. The manager and staff have made effective improvements, such as developing the outdoor area to support children who prefer to learn outdoors. The manager monitors staff performance thoroughly to support their ongoing development. For example, she regularly observes staff and provides feedback and coaching to help them extend their practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff clearly assess children's starting points and effectively track their progress to quickly identify and close any gaps in learning. They support children's good communication skills. For example, they help younger children learn new words and involve older children in conversations and ask questions that help them to think and respond. Children develop a positive interest in books and reading. For example, younger children enjoy listening to stories and recognise pictures. Older children turn pages when sharing books with their friends and retell familiar stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Key persons work closely with parents to help their children settle into the nursery. For example, parents provide information about their children's individual care needs and development. Children learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. For example, they enjoy nutritious meals and take part in active outdoor play. Children use good manners and learn to share and take turns during activities. Staff are good role models. For example, they give children lots of praise for their efforts and achievements. This helps to boost children's confidence and self-esteem. Children learn about their own and other people's similarities and differences. For example, they celebrate other cultures and staff provide opportunities for children to see and use their home languages.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and develop the skills they need to be ready to start school. For example, children confidently manage their personal care needs, interact well with each other and are motivated learners. Children develop an understanding of letter sounds and practise their early writing skills during activities. Babies develop their physical skills well. For example, they move with confidence and develop their hand-to-eye coordination well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413013
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1028565
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	0 - 5
Total number of places	94
Number of children on roll	185
Name of registered person	Townsend Montessori Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP906980
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2013
Telephone number	01843588840

The Grange Montessori registered in 2008. It operates from a two-storey converted school near to the centre of Ramsgate in Kent. The nursery is open all year round from 7.30am to 6pm. There are 27 members of staff working with the children, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications. The manager holds an early years foundation degree. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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