

Queens Park Montessori

155 Richmond Park Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH8 8UA



Inspection date	25 January 2017
Previous inspection date	6 January 2014

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 provide a safe and welcoming environment. From a young age, children build warm and trusting relationships with staff and one another. Staff get to know children as individuals and sensitively support their move to the next stage of learning.
- Children are keen to take part in the broad range of activities, which staff plan according to children's interests and learning priorities.
- Children develop increasing independence and learn useful, practical skills that help to prepare them well for starting school.
- Effective partnerships with parents and other professionals enable staff to meet children's individual needs well. Parents say that they find the staff approachable and agree that their children make good progress in their learning from their starting points.
- Management supports staff well in developing their professional knowledge. For example, staff have attended a variety of training which has extended their understanding of how to support children's language development effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not consistent in supporting children's activities effectively. They sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's learning through their chosen play.
- Management does not use all the information available to precisely check the progress made by groups of children and whether there are gaps in the curriculum.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop consistency in staff practice to ensure that all children are always supported and challenged appropriately
- build on the methods for monitoring children's learning and progress even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities and staff's interactions with children in all age groups, inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, which included the safeguarding policy and children's progress records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and an interview with the manager.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, obtained in person.

Inspector

Brenda Flewitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child. They keep their knowledge up to date through training. Management follows clear recruitment procedures to check staff's suitability to work with children. Staff work well together as a team. Effective communication helps them to keep children safe and meet their individual needs well. Management's self-evaluation includes the views of staff. They continually reflect on their practice and identify how to improve children's experiences. For example, they regularly add new resources and re-arrange play areas to encourage children's interest and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a good balance of activities. Children learn to confidently make choices and set themselves tasks with a wide range of appropriately challenging resources. Staff support children's learning well, overall. They model how to use specific equipment, encourage children to persevere, and then praise their efforts. For example, at the inspection, children used small equipment, such as pipettes, to transfer coloured water. They practised their scissor skills as they cut around pictures they had drawn. Staff provide a wide range of materials that children enjoy exploring and investigating. For example, children use their imaginations well as they make 'pies' with natural resources such as mud, leaves and twigs. Children show interest in wildlife and focus well on experimenting and investigating.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled. Staff gather important information from parents to help them make children feel secure. For example, they follow babies' home routines for sleeping and eating. Children develop a strong sense of belonging. For instance, they see photographs displayed of themselves and people who are important to them. Children behave well. Staff teach them to take turns, to respect other people and to care for their environment. Staff regularly praise children for their efforts and achievements, helping to boost their self-esteem. Children make choices from healthy options at mealtimes and have opportunities to be active in the fresh air every day.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and relate well to other people, making their needs known. They develop independence in caring for themselves. For example, older children manage their snack time without help, which includes washing and drying the utensils they have used. Children show an interest in numbers and shapes. They learn to recognise familiar written words, such as their name.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY242933
Local authority	Bournemouth
Inspection number	1068629
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	29
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Alison Catherine Toms
Registered person unique reference number	RP906340
Date of previous inspection	6 January 2014
Telephone number	01202 523 293

Queens Park Montessori Day Nursery registered in 1991. It operates from the ground floor of a private house in Bournemouth, Dorset. The nursery is privately owned and follows the Montessori method of teaching. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery opens five days a week from 8am until 5.45pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There is a team of 13 staff who work directly with the children, including the owner/manager. The owner has early years professional status. There are six staff with early years qualifications at level 3, and five staff who have early years qualifications at level 2.

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