

The Village Montessori @ Wrekenton



Wrekenton Family Centre, 107 Lanchester Avenue, GATESHEAD, Tyne and Wear, NE9 7AN

Inspection date 2 March 2017
Previous inspection date 7 May 2013

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 highly qualified, skilled provider inspires her knowledgeable staff team to raise outcomes for every child. Performance management systems include supervision sessions and practice observations that are used effectively to identify any training needs.
- The quality of teaching is strong and in some instances outstanding. Staff use excellent questions and follow children's lead in conversations encouraging them to think of different solutions. This helps to deepen children's thinking skills.
- Staff are excellent role models and very nurturing in their approach. Children are well settled and demonstrate good levels of respect for each other. They behave well and follow instructions. They are confident and demonstrate high levels of self-esteem.
- All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make good progress from when they first start at the nursery. Children are imaginative. They dress up in costumes of book characters and tell their own made up stories. Staff capture these stories and write children's very own storybooks.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Self-evaluation systems are not yet incisive enough. Priorities are not precisely identified and addressed to drive the quality of the provision to the highest level.
- Staff do not give the same consideration to thoughtful planning of the outdoor environment as they do inside. This means that children who prefer to learn outdoors do not always benefit from the same stimulating learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend existing self-evaluation systems even further to very incisively inform and address priorities and raise the quality of the provision to the highest level
- strengthen the planning for activities in the outdoor environment, in order to help children who prefer to learn outside have the same level of stimulating experiences as provided indoors.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. The inspector also discussed self-evaluation with the provider.
- The inspector completed a tour of the premises with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Emma Allison

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Children are supervised well throughout the day. The provider and her staff team are very knowledgeable about local safeguarding procedures. Concerns are recorded and swiftly addressed. Accident, incident and injury forms are well maintained. Daily risk assessments are completed. Children are encouraged to develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, during story time staff talk to children about the dangers of hot water and ask children to think about why this is dangerous. Parents speak highly of staff and are made to feel welcome in the nursery. Information is shared with parents and other professionals to support the individual needs of children. This helps to provide a continued approach to children's learning and development needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's communication skills are well supported. Children, including those who speak English as an additional language are encouraged to join in with rich conversations. Staff use statements when playing alongside children and provide children with enough time to lead the conversation. Staff read stories with great enthusiasm. Children become deeply engrossed in stories and excitedly join in with what might happen next. For example, staff use props and re-enact well-loved familiar tales. Children explore non-fiction books, including cookbooks. Staff encourage children to look at the pictures and read out the recipe. Children collect the various pretend items from the role play area. Staff complete observations of children's learning and form accurate assessments. This helps to identify what children need to learn next. The provider has recently implemented an online system to use to monitor children's progress and provide opportunities for parents to contribute to their children's learning. This is used to help to identify any gaps in learning and identify children that may need additional support.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children follow good hygiene practices and are encouraged to help to prepare meals. For example, they help to cut and peel vegetables before lunch. Children spread their own butter and jam onto crumpets for snack time and pour their own milk or water. This helps to promote children's independence. Children play cooperatively with one another. They share and take turns and remind each other of the nursery rules. Staff provide regular praise and encouragement and celebrate children's achievements. This helps to develop children's self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated to learn. They are provided with many opportunities to develop their mathematical understanding. Children talk confidently to visitors about their previous learning that includes watching plants grow. They talk about how long they had to wait and how they measured them to see how much the plant had grown. Children count out coloured sticks as they add them into their play dough models and offer this to staff as a pretend birthday cake. They are equipped with the key skills needed for future learning and prepared for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453770
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	1066353
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 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	VMNS Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910288
Date of previous inspection	7 May 2013
Telephone number	07778 387 103

The Village Montessori @ Wrekenton was registered in 2012. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one who holds early years professional status and qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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