Little People's Montessori

84 Victoria Way, London, SE7 7NQ



Inspection date14 September 2017Previous inspection dateNot applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 manager has a clear understanding of what good practice looks like and is committed to transfer this knowledge to all her staff. She evaluates her provision precisely and regularly and includes the views of children, staff, parents and other professionals in this process. This helps to continuously drive improvement.
- Staff support children to settle in, observing them and following their interests to be able to plan activities to support their learning. Parents are involved in this process, for example, they stay during the first settling-in sessions and discuss the child's interests and abilities. Children form secure attachments to the key person which helps them to develop emotionally.
- Parents speak highly about the support they and their children are getting and comment on the good progress their children make. They say their children are safe and happy.
- Staff manage the mixed age group very well, which helps create a respectful and natural learning environment. The older children learn to be sensitive and careful with the younger children, strengthening their knowledge, and the younger children are eager to interact with, and copy, their older peers. This helps all children to make good progress in their development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, such as when changing nappies, some staff miss opportunities to engage effectively with children to extend their learning.
- Children who prefer to learn outdoors do not always having the greatest of opportunities to lead and extend their own play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to make better use of opportunities that arise to communicate with children and extend their learning during daily routines
- extend the range of opportunities and experiences available to challenge and support those children who enjoy learning outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff working with the children and the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's learning and assessment records, and planning documentation.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Anja Eribake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager observes and evaluates staff practice. She has regular supervision meetings where she discusses their performance and checks their ongoing suitability to work with children. This helps her to identify training and improve the quality of teaching. For example, she has identified an aim to offer staff further training on planning and assessment to ensure that activities are always extremely effective to help children make the best possible progress in all areas. Staff have a clear understanding of the policies and procedures to follow if they should have a concern about a child's safety or welfare. Safeguarding is effective. The manager regularly monitors the progress children make to ensure any gaps are identified guickly and addressed in a timely manner.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan exciting activities for children to use their senses. Children are encouraged to feel a variety of textures, such as beans, flour, jelly and pasta. They talk about how it feels using words like 'squishy', 'soft' and 'lumpy'. This helps children to learn new words and develop their communication skills. Staff have a good understanding of how to cover the different areas of learning through activities. For example, when children explore the musical instruments they learn about different patterns, loud and quiet sounds, as well as how to handle the instruments.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to use resources in a safe and meaningful way. Staff recreate a popular story with the children. They inspire children to use their imagination to create an obstacle course using grates, planks and other resources available. This helps children develop their physical skills. They learn how to balance and work well together as they support one another to not fall off. Children's behaviour is good and staff model the expected behaviour, being respectful and working effectively as a team. Children's health is promoted well. They have access to outdoor play daily as well as to water and healthy snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, become independent learners and are ready for their next stage in learning, including the move to school. Younger children become confident and learn how to communicate their needs. For example, when exploring their environment, they seek their key person to let them now they want to go outdoors. Older children learn how to negotiate and use resources during activities. This helps to learn about simple mathematical concepts. For example, when children were looking for worms they realised that there are not enough magnifying glasses. This prompted some children to share theirs and some went inside to get more.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY485461

Local authority Greenwich

Inspection number 1008858

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 28

Number of children on roll 26

Name of registered person

Little People's Montessori Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP534279

Date of previous inspection Not applicable

Telephone number 07856211915

Little People's Montessori re-registered in 2015. The nursery is located in the London Borough of Greenwich and is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm, during term time only, offering different sessions. The nursery follows the Montessori philosophy. There are four members of staff working with the children. The manager has early years professional status and one member of staff holds qualified teacher status. Of the remaining staff, one holds a qualification at level 4 and one is qualified at level 3.

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