

The Children's House Montessori

207 West Street, Fareham, Hampshire, PO16 0EN



Inspection date

15 November 2017

Previous inspection date

30 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 plan exciting learning experiences that build on children's existing skills and knowledge. They observe what children know and can do, and regularly share this with parents. Children enjoy learning through play. They make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff support children's emotional development well and help children to settle easily and to build secure relationships. They are effective role models and use positive strategies to manage children's good behaviour. Children show they are confident, emotionally secure and happy.
- The manager and owners show a strong drive towards improving the quality of the provision. They use their experience and qualifications to effectively evaluate practice and take positive steps to implement plans for the ongoing development of the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not gather in-depth information about what parents know about their children's learning at home, to further inform children's assessments.
- Staff do not always help children share their thoughts and ideas during group activities or support them to listen when others are speaking.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more effective use of what parents know about their children, to inform children's assessments of learning
- provide further opportunities for children to participate in meaningful speaking and listening activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play during indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's assessment folders and records, and discussed children's learning with staff.
- The inspector spoke with the staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She held a meeting with the owners and manager.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager of a drawing activity.

Inspector

Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff work in close partnership with other agencies and professionals to promote children's safety and well-being. They take swift action if they have a concern about a child and are secure in their understanding of signs that children may be at risk of harm. Staff check the environment and minimise any hazards to children. For example, the main entrance is kept secure, and staff follow robust procedures at pick-up times and ensure children are kept safe while on outings. Comprehensive recruitment procedures and ongoing checks help to ensure staff suitability. The manager provides strong leadership to her team. She observes staff working with the children and provides effective feedback and opportunities for them to review their practice. The manager successfully monitors children's progress and swiftly addresses any emerging gaps to make sure all children achieve their very best.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is strong and staff build on and extend children's learning well. They use their good teaching skills as they play alongside children. For example, staff help children to make patterns with colourful pegs and help them calculate how many more they may need to complete their design. During small-group times, staff help children to talk about their senses and identify these from picture cards. Staff build on children's interest in nature, for instance, they help them draw pictures of insects and talk about the differences they see. Staff provide a wide range of opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff deploy themselves well to support children's good health and safety. They help children learn that rules and boundaries are in place to keep them safe. For example, children know to hold onto the rope when walking in the community and to listen carefully to staff when they cross the road. Children quickly identify risks for themselves. For example, they help to risk assess the outdoor area as they set this up for the day with staff. Children benefit from balanced and nutritious meals to support their good health. They enjoy weekly opportunities to swim at the local pool or play games on the large field at the park. Children learn to be kind and show great care as they look after the large African snails. They learn about similarity and difference and welcome in their friends from the community who come to play.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points. They are independent learners who show great enjoyment leading their own play. Children sustain their attention at activities and behave well. They follow instructions and are inquisitive and keen to find out more. Children develop their independence, for example, they tidy away resources and serve food at mealtimes. Older children write their own names and link sounds to letters. They are well equipped with the skills needed for future learning and their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453858
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1100580
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	The Children's House Montessori Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531991
Date of previous inspection	30 May 2017
Telephone number	01329236677

The Children's House Montessori registered in 2012. It operates from premises on the outskirts of Fareham, in Hampshire. The nursery has a sister nursery in the locality, which caters for babies and toddlers who transfer to this nursery at the age of two years. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, for 52 weeks a year. The setting runs a breakfast and after school club as well as a holiday club. The setting receives funding for the provision of free education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 10 members of staff working with the children, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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