

Willows Montessori Nursery

Ryton Community Centre, Ryton Village, Ryton, NE40 3QP



Inspection date

30 November 2017

Previous inspection date

Not 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

- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong. Parents have valuable opportunities to learn more about Montessori methods and practice at the nursery, for instance through the provision of workshops.
- Overall, staff use their thorough knowledge of children's interests to help them make good progress in their learning. Teaching is strong as staff interact well with children so that they effectively learn as they play.
- Staff support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities well. They are proactive in seeking support from external agencies and working with parents. This helps them to meet all children's individual needs and provide an inclusive setting.
- The outdoor area is very exciting and includes woodlands where forest school activities take place, which engage children very well. Children have fantastic opportunities to expend their energy and learn about living things, as they plant vegetables and care for the nursery hens and rabbits.
- The management team ensures that staff and parents share their views about the nursery. This helps them to evaluate the provision effectively and to identify aspects for further development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not use their observations effectively to plan highly challenging experiences that help children make rapid progress in all aspects of their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the very best use of the information gained from observations to help assess children's progress even more precisely.

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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff attend safeguarding training and they are aware of the appropriate action to take to support children's welfare. Staff deployment is effective and they provide good levels of supervision. The manager monitors accidents and adapts the risk assessments to help prevent further accidents. All staff follow robust confidentiality procedures. Management provides strong leadership and encourages staff to continuously develop their professional qualifications. Recent training has helped staff to review the layout of the environment to enhance the provision for babies and two-year-old children. Staff monitor children's learning closely, to help ensure they quickly identify and address any gaps. Regular supervision meetings and observations of practice contribute to maintaining good standards of teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with a well-equipped and stimulating environment which promotes their independent choices exceptionally well. For example, they demonstrate very good small-muscle skills as they competently use tweezers to transfer objects to different containers. Staff support children's communication and language skills very well. They speak clearly and introduce interesting vocabulary when needed. This helps children learn to speak using more complex words and sentences. Staff support children to use various resources to help consolidate their growing interest in mathematics and problem solving. Children enjoy the use of books to help develop their literacy skills and they understand what a useful resource books are. For example, staff help children to use a reference book about the Antarctic to support their understanding of animals that live in cold climates.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Highly nurturing staff and individualised settling-in sessions help children to develop secure, trusting and warm relationships. Staff know and adhere to babies' individual needs and routines. Children have their own photograph album with photographs of family members and friends which they can access at any time. This helps to meet their emotional needs well. Children's behaviour is good. Staff use age-appropriate strategies to help deter unwanted behaviour, for instance biting. Staff encourage children to assist in everyday tasks, such as tidying up, and to routinely return play materials to their proper places. Children follow good hygiene routines and benefit from nutritious, freshly prepared meals and snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and develop the skills that support their future learning, in readiness for their move to school. Children are motivated, inquisitive and fully immerse themselves in their learning. They demonstrate good independence skills and are very self-sufficient from an early age. Children take turns and share the toys well. For example, older children record their name to ensure they have a turn with popular resources. Babies develop their physical coordination as they practise walking with staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY499522
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	1050302
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	54
Number of children on roll	100
Name of registered person	Willows Montessori Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900221
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0191 4131929

Willows Montessori Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold early years professional status, one holds an early years qualification at level 6, one holds an early years qualification at level 5, four are qualified at level 4, eight at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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