

Casa dei Bambini Day Nursery

St. Johns Hall, St. Johns Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 0HF



Inspection date

7 February 2018

Previous inspection date

10 June 2015

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children display extremely high levels of independence. They are tremendously resilient and confident in their own abilities.
- Staff give children great encouragement to use small tools. Young children learn to risk assess. They understand knives are sharp and to use them carefully. Staff are excellent role models, such as patiently demonstrating new skills.
- The manager works with her well-qualified staff team to successfully develop and improve the setting. Recently, they have raised the quality of resources available to children in the outdoor space. Older children socialise with younger friends and practise their skills in the music area. Other children thoroughly enjoy writing familiar letters.
- Staff extend children's language skills. Babies babble as they feel the texture of different foods. Older children describe the feeling of a range of materials against their skin.
- Children from a variety of different backgrounds make good progress from the time they start. They are fully ready for the challenge of moving to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not support all parents to have a clear understanding of their children's next steps to help them to build on their children's knowledge and skills at home.
- Group activities do not consistently meet the learning needs of younger children. Children struggle to sit for longer periods of time and they lose concentration.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen systems used to share details of children's next steps so that all parents are sure of how they can support children's learning at home
- monitor routines and check that group activities fully meet the learning needs of all children involved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector talked to parents about the relationships children form with staff and how staff share details of their next steps.
- The inspector spoke to children about the type of activities they enjoy when they attend the setting.
- The inspector held a leadership and management discussion with the manager. They talked about the support the manager offers staff to fulfil their role.
- The inspector jointly observed an activity with the manager. They discussed what they had seen and how the activity could be improved.
- The inspector spoke to staff about the progress individual children are making and the support staff offer them to achieve.

Inspector

Julie Bruce

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager monitors the attainment of different groups of children very well and she identifies gaps in their knowledge. For instance, she strengthened the provision for teaching children about different types of technology. Children are curious to find out how simple items work, such as the vacuum cleaner. Safeguarding is effective. The manager thoroughly checks staff understanding of child protection, such as when she carries out short quizzes to gauge their knowledge. More experienced members of staff mentor new staff and help them gain a better grasp of the procedures to follow to keep children safe. Regular supervisory sessions with staff help the manager to identify appropriate training. They share the information they have learned with colleagues, such as details of how to refine the current planning system. Staff quickly identify children who require additional support. They work well with other agencies to raise outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff offer children plenty of opportunities to develop their writing skills. For example, older children painted the letters of their name. They carefully dripped glue across paper to create a design. Staff encouraged younger children to make marks in sand and mud. Staff know their key children very well and accurately assess what they are able to do. They plan activities that are appropriate for their individual stage of development. Staff encourage children to use mathematical language, such as when they support children to compare the size of fruit. Staff give children good support to develop their hand-to-eye coordination. For instance, they carefully pour liquids between containers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff offer children exceptional support to understand their friends whose families come from other countries. For instance, parents come in and demonstrate how to cook traditional cultural dishes. Children thoroughly enjoy this experience and they ask questions to further their knowledge. Staff offer children superb support to be proud of their achievements. They excitedly celebrate with children and talk about their successes. Children are delighted to help others. For example, they lay the table and help serve their friends at lunchtime. They develop a very strong personal sense of responsibility, such as when they learn to recycle. They understand they are an important part of the local community. Staff clearly define boundaries and children display impeccable behaviour at all times.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learning English as an additional language attain very well and are catching up with friends. Children are good at identifying numbers and they enjoy counting toys, such as when they add the monkeys dangling in their game. They enjoy engaging in books and they guess what will happen next in a story. Children practise writing familiar letters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297374
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1092161
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Hartley House Montessori Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910080
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2015
Telephone number	01962 855412

Casa dei Bambini Day Nursery is one of two settings run by Hartley House Montessori Ltd. It registered in 2004 and is in Winchester, Hampshire. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm all year. It receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 18 staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, two are qualified at level 6, one holds a qualification at level 5, four are qualified at level 4, four at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery operates in line with the Montessori method of teaching.

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