

Rigg Farm Montessori Nursery

Rigg Farm, Beckwithshaw, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 1QY



Inspection date	13 July 2018
Previous inspection date	29 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The highly competent staff deliver exceptional programmes of learning, which excite children and harness their natural curiosity and interest. This helps children to make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Staff are highly skilled in managing the changes children experience. They prepare them extremely well for starting school.
- Children behave exceptionally well; they are cooperative and are learning to take turns and share with excellent support from staff.
- The effectiveness of self evaluation is excellent. The management team and staff identify areas for improvement and continually review practice to ensure improvements.
- Staff work extremely closely with parents to help them to support children's learning at home. This means that parents can very successfully complement children's learning at home and children experience excellent continuity as a result.
- Staff support early language and communication skills exceptionally well. Staff repeat words when children play to extend upon children's vocabulary and understanding. Children thoroughly enjoy singing songs as a staff member plays the guitar.
- Staff have exceptional links with other professionals. This promotes an exceedingly collaborative approach to meet the individual and emotional needs of children, including those children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue with existing plans to build even further on children's already excellent skills of independence and maintain the high standards already achieved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used by the children, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of inspection. She discussed the nursery's methods for self-evaluation and the impact these have on the nursery.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Kerry Holder

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are extremely knowledgeable; they update their knowledge of child protection through regular training. Staff follow stringent policies and procedures, which help to create a wonderfully safe environment where children thrive. Staff skilfully supervise children closely, while allowing them the freedom to take small manageable risks which benefit their development. Exceedingly good programmes for staff supervision and professional development ensure that the quality of teaching in the nursery and staff morale are exceptionally high. Inspirational leadership and uncompromising expectations are communicated to the whole staff team, which shares the leaders' vision for excellence.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is inspirational. Children explore a wonderful range of differing media, such as clay, water and paint. Staff skilfully use resources to stimulate young children's impulse to learn and accomplish difficult tasks. For example, older children delight as they wear blindfolds to challenge themselves further to complete puzzles. Staff use their highly accurate observations to meticulously track children's progress. They have realistic but ambitious expectations for children's next steps in learning. Staff very quickly identify when children's development does not progress as expected. They make timely interventions to ensure that all children, including those who have SEN and/or disabilities, receive the support they need.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are happy. Their social and emotional development is given the highest priority. The nursery garden provides children with an extensive range of opportunities to develop their larger muscles. They climb, ride bicycles and embrace the wonderful and natural resources on offer. Children become highly independent as they make choices in their play. Management realises that there are opportunities to support children's independence even more effectively during routines. This will add to the exceptional independence skills that children already have. Children learn about a healthy lifestyle through the snack times and lunchtimes, which are managed exceptionally well. Staff sit with children to support them in decision-making and talk about the types of fruit and food they like. Children's social skills and good manners are supported to a high level at this time.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children at the nursery make rapid progress in their learning and development relative to their individual starting points. Children are extremely motivated to initiate their own play and they play cooperatively with their peers. They learn about technology and have excellent opportunities to learn about living things. For example, they help to care for farm animals and watch as sheep are sheared. Children display exceptionally high levels of self-esteem and confidence and are exceptionally well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	400409
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	1087823
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Theresa Micallef
Registered person unique reference number	RP904284
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2014
Telephone number	01423 525263

Rigg Farm Montessori Nursery registered in 1994. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 9.15am to 4pm during term time. A summer scheme runs from 9.15am to 4pm for two weeks in the school holidays for children up to the age of eight years. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery follows the Montessori philosophy of education.

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