

# Mulberry Bush Pre-School



Byron Primary School, St. Davids, COULSDON, Surrey CR5 2XE

<b>Inspection date</b>	2 October 2018
Previous inspection date	29 April 2016

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

### The provision is outstanding

- The manager has a deep understanding of how children learn and develop. She is extremely committed to her role and leads her team very well. Staff highly value the ongoing support and targeted professional development which enable them to raise their teaching practice to outstanding levels.
- The manager has successfully reviewed and improved the delivery of the educational programmes to ensure children have the best possible outcomes. Children comment that they 'love' taking part in activities and express how much they thoroughly enjoy themselves.
- The manager and staff are highly effective in monitoring children's progress and they respond very quickly to any emerging gaps in children's learning. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make substantial and sustained progress from their starting points.
- Staff establish very close partnerships with others to help children with their move within the setting and on to the school. Children are extremely settled and form secure emotional attachments with staff and their peers.
- Staff create superb learning environments, indoors and outdoors, that inspire, motivate and enthuse children to learn. As an example, many children, including boys, are very keen writers and can form recognisable letters.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already excellent communication with parents to ensure they are continuously aware of all aspects of the provision.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors in the Owls and Tiggers building.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of staff suitability checks and children's learning records.
- The inspector spoke with parents and sampled written feedback from them to gain their views about the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke with staff and interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection.

### Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The manager is an extremely conscientious leader. She engages very well with staff and other professionals to help her evaluate their practice. For instance, following a review, the manager reorganised the learning environments, which significantly increased children's levels of engagement. Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that staff attend regular training to enhance their knowledge of child protection issues. Staff are highly confident in reporting any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager follows stringent recruitment procedures to help check staff are suitable for their roles. Partnerships with parents are very successful. Parents highly praise staff and the service that they and their children receive. The manager recognises the need to explore other ways to build on the excellent communication with parents to benefit children even more.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff observations and assessments of children's learning are extremely precise. They have an exceptionally clear view of children's individual needs and abilities. Staff have completed training which has had a very positive impact on children's speech development. For example, children grow in great confidence as they build on and extend their vocabulary during well-targeted group activities. Staff have a strong focus on developing children's early mathematics. For instance, older children learn about capacity and measurement by exploring different vegetables during a planned activity. They gain a superb understanding of complex mathematical ideas, such as addition and subtraction, using real-life scenarios. Younger children are equally highly motivated as they learn about sizes, shapes and patterns during activities and spontaneous play.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff know children exceedingly well. They are exceptionally sensitive to children's individual needs and preferences. Children's behaviour is superb. They play collaboratively and show great respect for the rules and boundaries of the setting. Staff are outstanding in raising children's confidence. For instance, they challenge children's thinking and ask them to find solutions during play. Children show high levels of enjoyment as they test their ideas, such as when they pretend to make 'cakes' and investigate how fast balls roll down sloping tubes. Staff give children's care and safeguarding the utmost priority. For example, they supervise children skilfully without limiting their development. Children learn to check their environments, which helps them to identify, assess and manage age-appropriate risks.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress in their learning in preparation for school. They are incredibly busy and engaged in a wide variety of activities that test their abilities, including their physical skills. Children learn to be highly independent from a very early age. They select the resources that interest them and take responsibility for their personal care. Younger and older children benefit greatly from the varied opportunities which help them to gain an excellent understanding of and respect for others and their surroundings.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	125007
<b>Local authority</b>	Croydon
<b>Inspection number</b>	10062344
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	52
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	62
<b>Name of registered person</b>	The Mulberry Bush (Coulsdon) Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP524837
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	29 April 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8660 4180

Mulberry Bush Pre-School registered in 2000 and is open from 7.30am until 6.30pm from Monday to Friday, excluding two weeks during the Christmas holidays. There are 15 staff members; of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff members hold a foundation degree in early years and 11 staff hold qualifications at level 3. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years old.

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