

Allens Montessori Nursery

Allens Montessori Day Nursery, 47 Beulah Road, Thornton Heath CR7 8JH



Inspection date

30 October 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	

Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children have good opportunities to explore and learn, indoors and outside. Staff provide interesting and practical activities that engage children well. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff help children to develop strong attachments. Children arrive at the nursery happily and settle quickly into the familiar routines. Staff working in the baby room provide good levels of care and emotional support. Babies show a real sense of belonging.
- The nursery provides a broad range of healthy snacks and meals daily. Staff are proactive in talking to children about what they are eating and the health benefits. This helps to support children's increasing awareness of a healthy lifestyle.
- The management team highly values staff professional development. For example, staff receive good support to extend their knowledge and skills through training, such as developing their teaching and assessment skills to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best use of information gained from assessments to plan highly focused activities based on children's individual next steps.
- Staff do not consistently provide a wide enough range of activities to extend children's physical skills further, particularly for younger children aged under two years.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the use of information about next steps to plan focused activities that help all children make even better progress
- extend the range of activities to encourage and build on children's physical development, particularly for younger children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector reviewed documents, including learning records for children, evidence of staff suitability and professional development, records relating to children's safety and health, and complaints.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between staff and the children, and assessed the impact of this on children's learning.

Inspector

Trisha Edward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of how to keep children safe, including how to identify and report concerns about children's welfare to the appropriate professionals. Rigorous risk assessments are used to help ensure all areas of the nursery are safe and secure. The manager identifies ongoing improvements through continuous self-evaluation and using the views of the staff and parents. This helps her to make changes to improve opportunities for children. For example, parents complete questionnaires. They speak very highly of the nursery and praise the level of care and support the staff provide. They comment that staff are welcoming and approachable. The management team implements effective ways to monitor staff performance and make improvements. For example, staff have regular supervision sessions and attend team meetings, where they can share ideas.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The management team and the staff monitor children's progress closely. They implement effective systems that enable them to highlight any child who is at risk of falling behind. Staff put plans in place when required to help children and they liaise with parents and other professionals in the process. Staff plan a range of fun opportunities for children to learn about diversity and the world around them. For example, during the Diwali and bonfire festivities, children decorated their handprints with glitter. They also created their own interpretations of firework displays. Babies have great fun being creative. They eagerly join in action songs and rhymes. They shake their musical instrument and move their bodies in time to the familiar songs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn about acceptable behaviour and are encouraged to share and take turns and treat each other and the environment with respect. Staff praise good behaviour and any minor issues are quickly resolved through discussion. Children's home languages are supported well within the setting and there are a number of staff who speak those same languages. Staff teach children how to be responsible for their own personal safety, for instance, they teach younger children how to walk up and down the stairs safely. Staff encourage older children's physical skills well. For instance, children enjoy accessing the small gym equipment in the outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn different skills, which prepares them well for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. For instance, older children gain skills in early literacy and mathematics, such as identifying shapes and numbers from one to 10. Children of all ages choose freely to look at books and enjoy sharing books together. Babies and toddlers develop good sensory skills. They enjoy experiences, such as feeling dough and using their hands and a range of tools to make marks in and mould the dough.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537580
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10076954
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Allen's Montessori Day Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP537579
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	020 87712728

Allen's Montessori Nursery is privately owned and re-registered in 2016. It operates from a converted house in Thornton Heath, located in the London Borough of Croydon. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7.45am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 10 members of staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status, 9 hold a relevant childcare qualifications at level 4, level 3 and at level 2. The nursery uses the Montessori method of teaching.

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