

Inspection of Moniques Montessori Day Nursery

41 Chipstead Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2AJ

Inspection date: 30 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The manager and staff at the nursery are friendly and welcoming. Children develop warm and caring attachments to staff and each other. Children feel safe and secure and say they want to come to the setting. They are happy and motivated to learn. The manager and staff are dedicated in teaching the children to be honest and fair, and to share and be caring towards their friends. Staff are good role models and older children are beginning to negotiate conflicts independently. The manager and staff support children's emotional well-being effectively. For example, children begin to learn about their feelings and how their actions have an effect on others. The manager and staff have high expectations of the children in their care. They support children to help them develop a can-do attitude. This helps children to be resilient. Parents are happy with the service the manager and staff provide. A parent commented that the nursery is 'like a family' and staff 'genuinely care about the children'. Since the last inspection, the manager has supported staff to use questioning to challenge children to think even more and to further extend their learning. She has also supported staff to make full use of all opportunities to develop children's mathematical language and understanding as they play and explore.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The manager and staff work well together and this joint approach has a positive impact on the children. For example, staff use the same consistent strategy and language to teach children how to behave well.
- The manager and staff have a good settling-in procedure and identify a child's starting points well. They plan for each child to make progress through meeting the child's developmental needs, and help them to gain proficiency in new skills. Staff plan activities to ensure children are suitably challenged.
- The manager and staff encourage and support children to interact with each other. For example, at lunchtime older children and younger children mix together. This helps to develop and build on social skills and develop new friendships.
- The manager supports staff development well. She regularly observes staff and together they reflect on strengths and areas for development. They work well with parents and other agencies and use similar strategies to continue children's learning. This effective flow of information helps children to benefit from the consistent approach to their needs.
- The manager and staff teach children about safety and risk well. For instance, younger children learn how to use a knife safely. Older children learn how to risk assess the outside area and decide themselves if they are capable of safely negotiating the equipment.
- The manager and staff communicate effectively with parents in a number of

different ways. For example, there is a weekly newsletter and a daily noticeboard updated with the activities or news of the day. There is also a 'show day' where children have the opportunity to show their parents around the nursery.

- The manager and staff support children's developing communication and language skills well. However, more opportunities could be provided to support children who are learning English as an additional language to make better progress.
- The manager and staff teach children about life cycles and they know how to look after stick insects. Children learn how in China a fisherman catches fish using a cormorant. They have lots of opportunities to learn about the world around us.
- Children learn practical skills, such as putting their own shoes on, managing zips and visiting the toilet independently. Children choose their own resources, such as matching and sorting different objects to help develop their fine motor skills.
- The manager and staff prepare the children well for school. For example, teachers from the local school comment that 'children are confident and have a positive attitude to learning'.
- Although children learn across a broad range of areas that are generally well supported in the nursery, areas and opportunities for older children to rest and relax in, if they are tired, are less evident.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager ensures staff have an up-to-date knowledge of relevant and current government guidelines and legislation. They attend regular safeguarding training and have a good knowledge of wider child protection and safeguarding issues. The manager and staff know what to do and who to contact if they have a concern about a child's welfare. The manager has a comprehensive safeguarding policy which is frequently updated and shared with staff and parents. This includes a policy on online safety to help keep children safe. When appointing new staff the manager has a thorough recruitment procedure to ensure staff are suitable and have the necessary skills to teach within the nursery.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make the most of all opportunities to help children with English as an additional language contribute to conversations and build further on their speech
- develop areas for older children to rest and relax in comfort during the session.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127387
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063872
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Purdy Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905764
Telephone number	01732 452931
Date of previous inspection	31 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

Moniques Montessori Day Nursery registered in 1989 and is located in Sevenoaks, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, except for Christmas and bank holidays. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are 10 staff, of whom one holds a relevant foundation degree and eight hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery operates in line with the Montessori ethos.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Susan Allen

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and observed the impact of teaching on children's enjoyment and development.
- The inspector spoke with parents to gain an understanding of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the nursery manager.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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