

Inspection of Pippins Montessori LLP

Whites Farm, Bures Road, White Colne, Colchester, Essex CO6 2QF

Inspection date: 16 March 2020

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive at this superb nursery. They challenge themselves to think creatively and work things out for themselves. For example, children program a robotic cube to move through a grid. They analyse the problem and focus intently on moving the robot to their chosen destination. Children cooperate with each other fabulously well and make decisions together. Older children help their younger friends to learn left from right. Children persist in completing the task. They beam with pride when staff praise them. Children feel exceedingly safe and secure as they confidently try new things.

Babies play energetically and relish the rich variety of resources they have to explore. For instance, they excitedly toddle over to an activity where they discover a foil 'space' blanket. They learn new words like 'crinkle' and 'whisk' as they examine household implements in amongst the foil. Babies are extremely interested and delight in the sounds and texture of the blanket. They laugh as staff tickle their bellies while they play. Babies' learning is further extended as staff add large dry beans to the activity. Babies sign 'please' as they ask staff to put beans in their metal bowls. They happily pour and scoop up the beans.

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

- The inspirational leadership team has ambitious plans for the nursery. They continuously look at ways to enhance practice. Staff have exceptional opportunities to progress their career development. They constantly work towards building their professional expertise. New staff members receive tremendous support and training. Extra supervision meetings help them to achieve high standards of teaching. Staff are a close-knit team and the manager is committed to their positive well-being. They are excellent role models to children. For example, staff eat lunch with children and demonstrate fabulous manners and consideration towards others.
- Children thoroughly enjoy playing in the wonderful garden. Babies stand on their tiptoes as they scoop water out of a water tray. They examine flower petals and glitter in the water with complete fascination. Older children solve problems, such as how balls can get down guttering tubes. They work in a team to hold the tubes and balance them on stands. Staff provide for children extremely well, offering lots of encouragement. They extend children's knowledge of early mathematical concepts throughout their play. Children are highly motivated to succeed and have the time to make mistakes and learn how to do things on their own. They are gaining the skills to be highly resilient and make decisions for themselves.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Parents comment that staff are 'loving', 'nurturing' and 'attentive'. They are thrilled with the excellent progress

their children are making. Parents value the high-quality communication they receive. They are grateful for suggestions and strategies staff give them to support learning with their children at home. Parents compliment staff on how well they know the children and how they genuinely care about them as individuals.

- Children have fantastic opportunities to discover the world around them. They explore the apple and pear orchards on site, and learn about the herd of deer and the hares that live there. Children enthusiastically take part in harvesting the fruit. They eat the fruit and use it in baking. Children learn about people in the community who help them. For example, they have fire fighters, police officers and doctors who visit to explain what they do. Children take part in charity events and understand how their contribution will help others who are less fortunate than themselves.
- Children develop an early love of reading. Highly skilled staff keep children totally captivated in stories they read throughout the day. They read with fabulous expression. Staff keep children in suspense and they all excitedly join in with the story. Children confidently answer questions and use new words that they have just learned. Staff challenge them in their thinking. Children are thoughtful and give intelligent answers. They are exceptionally well behaved and use impeccable manners.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding issues. They are knowledgeable about the specific issues that may affect children and families in their local area. They know how to take prompt and effective action should they have any concerns about children's welfare. Staff know the exact procedures for reporting allegations and how to escalate concerns to professionals outside the nursery, if necessary. Staff have exceptional knowledge of the signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm. Managers conduct safer recruitment procedures and are vigilant in checking that staff remain suitable in their roles.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY282196
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10127352
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	84
Name of registered person	Pippins Montessori LLP
Registered person unique reference number	RP535430
Telephone number	01787 228567
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

Pippins Montessori LLP registered in 2004. It follows the Montessori approach to education. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, two at level 4, five at level 3 and four at level 2. The nursery employs a manager, an administrative officer and a cook. It opens Monday to Friday for 47 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Doherty

Inspection activities

- Ofsted is aware of the challenges that Covid-19 is currently posing to those we inspect. During this visit, the inspector took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of Coronavirus by the provider. This has included the effect these measures have had on the current attendance of the children and staffing arrangements.
- The manager gave the inspector a tour of the setting, and discussed the aims of the curriculum and how the learning environment is organised.
- The inspector observed a range of activities indoors and outside, and assessed the quality of education and the impact on children's learning. The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and viewed written feedback. She took into account their views.
- A sample of documentation, including staff's suitability records and policies and procedures, was looked at by the inspector.

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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