

Inspection of Peacock Montessori Nursery Ltd

Peacock Montessori Nursery, Old Bury Road, Diss, Norfolk IP21 4AD

Inspection date: 3 October 2023

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are welcomed with a warm smile as staff greet them at the entrance foyer of the nursery. They demonstrate their strong relationships as they hold out their arms to their key person. Children wave goodbye to their parents and carers and excitedly go inside to begin their day. Young children smile with pride as staff encourage them to identify their friends and family members on the photo display. This gives children a good sense of belonging. Staff take time to get to know all children and their families when they join the nursery. This has enabled staff to create a well-sequenced curriculum that helps to build on what children already know and can do.

Children behave well and show kindness to each other. Older children take younger children by the hand and support them to find their coat to go outside in the garden. Staff are good role models and help children to understand the nursery rules and expectations by gently reminding them to use their 'walking feet' and 'kind hands'. Staff encourage children to learn 'life skills' and encourage them to help with some of the routine tasks, such as setting up the table for their friends before mealtimes.

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

- Reflective leaders and managers use their professional knowledge of child development to establish an effective 'Montessori approach' curriculum. Staff receive regular training, which allows them to successfully deliver the curriculum and support children to learn the key skills they need for life.
- Staff listen and respond to children's interests well. For example, children use their imaginations to create their own 'cakes' in the mud kitchen outside. Staff extend this learning effectively and encourage children to identify the different ingredients they may need and how many of each they should use. Children practise counting on their fingers as they crack the 'eggs' into the bowl.
- Children of all ages listen to stories with fascination and interest. Staff read to children in a way that excites them, and they incorporate props to help motivate children even further. Children develop a love for stories as they join in with familiar words and phrases. However, at times, staff do not always ensure their own teaching builds on children's communication and language skills. For example, on occasion, staff do not give children enough time to respond or ask questions that encourage children to share their own thoughts and ideas.
- Children relish their time in the nursery garden. Older children demonstrate their good physical skills as they ride bikes up and down the garden, manoeuvring around objects in their path. Other children enjoy learning about nature as they care for a slug they find on the ground. Staff extend this learning effectively and encourage children to describe the different characteristics of the slug. Older

children discuss the similarities and differences of 'snails' and 'slugs'.

- Children learn to be independent during their time at nursery. Children enjoy practising the skill of self-serving their own snack and pouring their own drinks. However, transitions between routines and activities are not always managed well. Children do not always benefit from purposeful interaction or direction by staff. Consequently, this means that the youngest children do not always know what comes next, and this can cause them to wander or become restless.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive tailored support to meet their individual needs. Staff work closely and collaboratively with parents and other professionals, such as speech and language therapists, to help children make good progress in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents are very positive about the nurturing care and exciting education that their children receive. They state they receive information about their child's day and how they can continue their child's learning at home. Parents highlight that children's allergies are managed with the utmost care, which provides them with confidence and reassurance. They describe staff as kind and welcoming.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding. All staff confidently discuss procedures they would follow if they have a concern about a child in their care. They demonstrate embedded knowledge of the nursery's policies. For example, they know and discuss robust procedures in place for the use of computer tablets and mobile phones. Leaders and managers follow robust recruitment and induction procedures that help to assure the suitability of adults working with children. Leaders regularly monitor children's attendance to help them identify signs that may indicate a child is at risk.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- coach staff in strengthening their teaching strategies to help children to expand their vocabulary
- support staff to consistently maintain the quality of interaction and engagement with children throughout the day, including during periods of transition.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493040
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10300972
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 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	The Peacock Montessori Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534862
Telephone number	01379740508
Date of previous inspection	3 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

Peacock Montessori Nursery Ltd registered in 2015. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Holly Todd

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their early years curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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