

# Inspection of Chapel Grange Montessori Nursery

Chapelstead, Dean Row Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 2BU

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Inspection date: 18 July 2023

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## **Overall effectiveness**

**Inadequate**

The quality of education

**Good**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Good**

Personal development

**Inadequate**

Leadership and management

**Inadequate**

Overall effectiveness at previous  
inspection

Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is inadequate

Significant weaknesses in leadership and management puts children at risk of harm. Leaders have failed to act appropriately to ensure child protection procedures are implemented effectively in practice when an allegation is made against a member of staff. In addition, leaders have not made sure staff understand their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. Staff do not act swiftly enough to assure the safety of children. Furthermore, staff do not have the opportunity to discuss sensitive issues with the manager in a confidential space. This does not protect children's well-being and welfare.

Staff build positive relationships with children. Children come into nursery happy and go to staff for cuddles. Children are developing friendships with others. Staff role model to children their expectations for behaviour. They tidy up resources when they are finished and encourage children to help, which children quickly do. Children are developing the understanding of keeping the environment and themselves safe. Staff support children's independence and confidence. As a result of this, children are developing into confident communicators who express themselves clearly. Staff implement an ambitious and interesting curriculum which supports children in all areas of learning and development. Children are making good progress in readiness for their next stage of development.

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

- The manager and staff do not implement safeguarding procedures. Although staff can explain the setting's policy and procedures, they do not take swift action when new information about children emerges. Additionally, when information is disclosed, there is a significant delay in the information being referred to the local safeguarding partnership. This puts children's safety and well-being at risk.
- Leaders do not work together with other agencies to keep children safe. Following an allegation made against a member of staff, the provider did not ensure the correct procedures were followed by referring the information to the local authority designated officer (LADO), before carrying out an internal investigation. Due to this, the individual leading the investigation did not obtain integral advice or support from the LADO. As a result, insufficient information was gathered. This puts children at risk of harm as staff's suitability to work with children has not been adequately checked.
- Staff promote children's language development. Singing can be heard continuously throughout the setting. Children join in enthusiastically, and even demonstrate the confidence to sing on their own to their peers. Staff ask appropriate questions for children's age and stage of development. Staff present older children with opportunities to develop and explain their understanding.

Children are becoming fluent communicators.

- Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. Children react well to this. For example, staff explain to children why some behaviour may not be appropriate, and they listen and quickly respond. On the day of the inspection, staff spoke to children in a calm manner and encouraged 'kind hands'. Children are learning how to regulate their own behaviour.
- Staff empower children to think critically about the world around them. For example, staff follow children's lead on making binoculars to explore the garden. Children then use the binoculars to develop their understanding and be inquisitive about their environment. Staff support children's learning in all areas.
- Staff support children to be independent. They encourage children to take responsibility to help others, such as being the 'lunchtime helper'. Children serve their own food and clear their plates away afterwards. They use the mirror to check their faces as they clean them. Children are developing skills in readiness for school.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider does not ensure that all staff, particularly those in leadership roles, understand the safeguarding policy and procedures and have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues. This is in particular regard to managing allegations and responding to concerns about children's welfare. Some staff are not aware of the procedures for managing allegations. This means children are at risk of staff not making safe decisions about the adults caring for them. Furthermore, the manager and staff fail to follow the local safeguarding partnership procedures in a timely manner. Children are not adequately safeguarded. Despite the weaknesses, there are robust procedures in place to ensure the safety of the environment. Risk assessments are regularly carried out. This helps ensure the premises are safe for children to attend.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.**

**We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:**

	Due date
ensure all staff understand the safeguarding policy and procedures and have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues, with particular regard to managing allegations	08/08/2023

improve the manager's and staff knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow, so that they are able to quickly identify potential signs of abuse and refer to the appropriate agencies in a timely manner.	08/08/2023
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## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	305009
<b>Local authority</b>	Cheshire East
<b>Inspection number</b>	10303020
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	1 to 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	43
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Chapel Grange Montessori Nursery Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP524130
<b>Telephone number</b>	01625 532083
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 February 2018

## Information about this early years setting

Chapel Grange Montessori Nursery registered in 1996 and is located in Wilmslow, Cheshire. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. 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

Joanne Buckley

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 provider.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the safeguarding arrangements of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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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