

Inspection of The Montessori Pavilion

The Montessori Pavilion, Vine Road, London SW13 0NE

Inspection date: 31 January 2020

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

The provision is good

Children show that they feel safe and happy. They greet the staff and their friends when they arrive and quickly become engrossed in activities. Children are confident to choose what they want to play with. They demonstrate interest in the activities staff provide and are consistently engaged and active. For example, children playing in the construction area worked effectively together and showed high levels of involvement. They created detailed models of buildings, such as a pagoda and a flying castle. Children concentrate well as they practise developing their writing skills. Staff help them to form letters correctly as they write their names and learn about the alphabet. Children enjoy taking part in physical play opportunities provided outdoors. They acquire good strength and coordination as they use the large apparatus in the playground nearby. They learn to move their bodies in different ways as they run, jump, climb and balance. However, staff are not consistently proficient in promoting all areas of learning well throughout the nursery, including outdoors. Children respond to the consistent reminders from staff about what is expected of them and their behaviour is good. Older children develop secure friendships with their peers and cooperate well when playing games.

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

- Managers and staff are passionate about providing high-quality early education for children. They seek to provide activities which enable all children to make good progress. However, they do not always consider how to provide a wide range of learning experiences for children who prefer to learn outdoors.
- Staff observe children and have lots of conversations with them throughout the morning. This helps them get to know the children well. Staff speak knowledgeably about what the children can do and what they need to learn next. They provide a good range of experiences to support children's early learning. However, children do not have consistent access to a wider range of media and materials that they can use to express their ideas creatively.
- Parents say that they have good relationships with staff and trust them to care for their children and keep them safe. They comment that staff teach their children well and help them learn the skills and attitudes they need for starting school.
- Staff speak enthusiastically about working at the nursery. They say that they are well supported by the managers to develop their professional skills. The provider encourages them to work towards higher qualifications and they have regular opportunities to attend additional training.
- Children are confident and independent learners. They regularly take part in activities that contribute to their understanding of mathematics. For example, they learn to recognise numerals and to count accurately.

- Children develop good communication skills. They enjoy sharing their ideas and are very eager to speak out when staff ask them questions about stories. Staff introduce children to a wide range of words during their play, which helps them to develop broad vocabularies.
- Staff develop positive relationships with the children. They provide children with plenty of praise and encouragement, which boosts their confidence and promotes a positive attitude towards learning.
- Children learn to be helpful and develop a sense of responsibility for themselves and the nursery environment. For example, they learn to put away resources when they have finished an activity and they eagerly help with tasks, such as cleaning tables.
- Staff place a high priority on developing children's confidence and independence. They help them learn important social skills in readiness for starting school. For example, children serve themselves with food and drinks at snack times and learn to put on outdoor clothing by themselves.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have completed safeguarding training and have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. They know how to identify possible signs of abuse and have a broad understanding of wider safeguarding issues. This includes where children might be at risk from exposure to extreme views. Staff know the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child in their care, as well as of the whistleblowing procedure. Staff carry out daily checks on the premises and equipment to identify any potential hazards and to maintain a safe environment for children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve the opportunities for children to develop their creativity by using a wide range of resources, media and materials
- ensure that there are consistent opportunities for children to experience all areas of the curriculum for those who prefer to learn outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511429
Local authority	Richmond Upon Thames
Inspection number	10138163
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Dashwood, Georgina Helen
Registered person unique reference number	RP904993
Telephone number	020 8878 9695
Date of previous inspection	25 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

The Montessori Pavilion registered in 1992. It is situated in the London Borough of Richmond. The nursery is open each weekday during school terms, from 9am to 12.30pm, with some extended sessions until 3pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, depending on demand. The owner receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. The owner employs five members of staff; of these, three hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 4. The nursery follows the Montessori method of education.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the manager and discussed how the curriculum is planned and delivered.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager, who is also the provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager; she looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The quality of education during activities was observed 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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