

Cherubs Montessori Day Nursery

5 Castle View Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3PP



Inspection date	14 May 2018
Previous inspection date	28 November 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Leaders and staff have worked to tackle issues and drive significant improvement since the last inspection. The impact is evident in both the improved learning environment and outcomes for children, as well as the strong teaching.
- Staff now have a secure understanding of safeguarding and their responsibilities to protect children's welfare. They make sure the environment is safe and clean through good use of risk assessment.
- The introduction of a new system for planning and assessment is resulting in staff providing a much more enabling learning environment because they understand what is needed. Children are keen learners who engage enthusiastically in activities both inside and outdoors.
- Children with special educational needs benefit from good teaching and personalised support. This effectively promotes their well-being and is enabling them to make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships with both parents and other settings children attend are in place but they do not provide a high level of knowledge about what children can already do and need further support with.
- Children's early mathematical development is not promoted as effectively as other areas of learning, to help children be ready to move on to the next stage of their education.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with further opportunities to enhance their understanding of mathematics
- extend partnership working even further with parents and other settings children attend to promote good learning outcomes for each child.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the management team and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked to parents who were available on the day of the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including records of the progress that children have made, staff records, accident records, policies and the register of attendance.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the support for children's learning both indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Lisa Watson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Considerable work has been undertaken by leaders and staff to make sure children are safely cared for. The nursery environment has been significantly improved. Changes include re-organising the layout of rooms to provide children with more challenging learning opportunities. Toilet doors have been fitted to provide children with much-needed privacy. Throughout the nursery, attractive displays of children's creativity greatly enhance areas and help to promote a strong sense of belonging for everyone. Parents comment positively about the nursery, particularly about the improvements that have been made, and say they feel reassured by these. However, the nursery does not give them lots of information about how they can further support their children's learning at home. Partnerships with special needs services provide good continuity of care and learning, but are less well established with other settings children attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The curriculum and staff's interactions with children are good. Planning constantly evolves through good use of observations of the children as they play. Staff then purposefully build on activities to teach each child in a stimulating and challenging way. Children are inquisitive and confident to explore and to learn new skills. For example, in the Montessori room, children eagerly practise using pipettes, write numerals and construct models. Staff capture babies' interest using dens, lights and torches. Babies beam smiles and show delight as they learn how to turn things on and off. Staff working with toddlers, including those learning English as an additional language, strongly encourage their language skills. For example, they read stories and help children learn to say simple sentences as they explore shaving foam play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children love playing outside and staff now provide a challenging learning environment. For example, obstacle courses help children to exercise and take manageable risks as they balance and jump. Bug hunts provide all children with stimulating experiences as they search for wood lice and worms. Children's behaviour is good and staff are good role models. Snack and meal times are sociable experiences and children eat well. Children learn how to serve themselves, gaining independence and learning about portion control as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn essential skills to prepare them for the next stage of their learning and development, including starting school. For example, children request to sing their new favourite song in front of others, showing confidence and pride as they stand in front of their friends to do so. Children are being supported appropriately to reach their potential.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY495639
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1132361
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	96
Name of registered person	Walton House Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901710
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2017
Telephone number	01634716282

Cherubs Montessori Day Nursery re-registered in 2016. It is situated in Rochester, Kent. The nursery is open from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. A team of 30 staff work in the nursery. Of these, 28 hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery follows a Montessori ethos.

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