



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE

Devon Nursery Awarded “Outstanding” In Ofsted Inspection

Little Orchard Montessori Nursery, based in South Brent, is delighted to have been awarded “Outstanding” in every aspect of their recent Ofsted inspection.

Ofsted, the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills, said:

“Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding ... The nursery provides children with a very safe, secure learning environment and many opportunities.”

Ofsted inspect childcare providers with little or no notice and in an Early Years setting would measure against four key judgements: how well the setting meets the needs of the children, the effectiveness of leadership, the quality of provision and the outcomes for the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The Outstanding judgement is given only when there is exceptional provision that greatly exceeds requirements. The standard of care must be astounding, and the organisation highly effective at making sure children make significant progress towards the early learning goals. Overall, it must be clear that the nursery is having positive effects on the children beyond the setting.

The Ofsted report on Little Orchard in South Brent reads:

“All children are supported exceptionally well in achieving their full potential.”

The nursery, which is set on the edge of the Dartmoor National Park, takes an innovative and unique approach to early year’s development via the Montessori approach to learning and teaching.

The Montessori approach offers an alternative method to conventional learning and teaching and Little Orchard present an open environment that the children have freedom within. They can decide when they want to snack, whether they want to play indoors or outdoors, or to play alone or with other children. By presenting an environment in this way, it encourages them to make their own decisions so they can learn at their own pace.

The Ofsted report further noted:

“Children enter the nursery eagerly and with great enthusiasm. They confidently choose from the wide range of resources available to them, and quickly settle to activities that engage their interests well. They form very good relationships with one another and with familiar staff”.

<name>, mother of <name> who has attended the South Brent nursery for <number> months/years said:

“I’m extremely pleased to learn that my child has been attending the very best nursery on offer. The staff are wonderfully pleasant and my child is always happy to attend.”

Children are encouraged to be independent and care for each other and their environment, and thus learn from this process. Little Orchard, South Brent enforces this method, spectacularly. They provide the best possible conditions to promote physical, social, emotional, and intellectual

development in an open environment, which has earned them their well-deserved “outstanding” status.

Ofsted said: “There is a strong sense of community within the nursery and children's behaviour is very good. They are familiar with the daily routines and participate willingly in tidying away and caring for their resources.”

Tracey Bruce, Manager at South Brent said:

“I can't tell you how pleased we are to have attained “Outstanding” in all aspects of our inspection! We strive to give the children the best we possibly can throughout the year, and here is evidence that that is exactly what we're doing!”

Little Orchard has recently opened a second nursery in the beautiful setting of Sparkwell and aims to pursue the same outstanding performance that their South Brent counterpart has demonstrated. At Sparkwell they continue to provide the very best Montessori nursery care for children in the local area, with additional benefits such as longer opening times to accommodate parents who have early starts or late finishes, as well as catering for babies as young as three months old.

Caroline Lucas, Manager of the new nursery at Sparkwell said:

“It is fantastic news that our longest running nursery has received this recognition, Sparkwell is run on exactly the same exacting standards and principles and we are confident that when it comes to be inspected by Ofsted it will also serve to impress.”

For more information on Little Orchard visit: <http://www.littleorchardmontessori.co.uk/> or if you would like to arrange a visit at either Sparkwell or South Brent you can call them on: (01364) 73131 (South Brent) 07974901367 (Sparkwell) or email: littleorchard123@btinternet.com

Editors Notes

- For further information, photos or interviews please contact Tracey Bruce on: [<number>](tel:0136473131) or [<email>](mailto:littleorchard123@btinternet.com).
- Little Orchard South Brent has been operating as a Montessori nursery for over 20 years. The current proprietors have been running Little Orchard for South Brent for 5 Years and opened Little Orchard Sparkwell in January 2011
- Montessori – The Montessori method was brought about by Maria Montessori who has been and still is one of the most influential pioneers in early childhood education. For more information visit: <http://www.montessori.org.uk/>