

Little Orchard Montessori Nursery - Woodlands

The Nursery, Abbot Road, Ivybridge, PL21 9TF



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|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Inspection date | 21 September 2016 |
| Previous inspection date | Not applicable |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Not applicable | |
| 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

- The management team ensures staff have a good awareness of children's individual needs and meet them well. They supervise children effectively and thorough risk assessments help them to keep children safe.
- Staff support children's health and well-being well. They help children to follow and understand the daily routines, preparing them well for school.
- Children make good progress from their developmental starting points. The management team monitors their progress closely and ensures staff take prompt action to close any gaps in learning. Effective partnerships with others enable staff to provide good support to children's learning and development.
- Self-evaluation is rigorous and includes the views of staff and parents. Effective action plans enable the management team and staff to make ongoing improvements and increase learning opportunities for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff in the pre-school room use their knowledge from training well to support children's communication and language development, staff in the baby room are less confident to extend and use different ways to communicate with babies.
- Information sharing with parents is generally good, although staff do not consistently engage all parents in the initial assessment process or in the preparations for babies when they move into the pre-school room, to help them settle and learn from the start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the support to babies, to encourage their communication and language development further
- engage all parents more consistently in the assessment process from the start, to share what they know about their children's abilities, and involve them more when babies are ready to change rooms and key persons, to help them settle and learn from the start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff in their activities.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team, staff and parents.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and checked other procedures, including risk assessments, accidents and incidents, and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector checked the safety of the premises.

Inspector

ISP Inspection

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team follows rigorous procedures to check and monitor staff suitability. It encourages staff development effectively through ongoing training opportunities and demonstrating good practice to teach staff about the Montessori ethos. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff routinely update their knowledge and awareness of child protection procedures, which enables them to safeguard children well. The management team monitors records closely as part of their risk assessment process and takes effective action to reduce and prevent the risk of accidents. The management team works closely with parents to meet children's individual needs and addresses any concerns they may have promptly, in line with its complaints procedure.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of children's learning needs. They encourage all children well to explore and make discoveries. They help older children to select resources to play with independently and teach them why they need to put them back. Older children receive good support from staff to develop control and coordination of their movements, for example, to carefully transfer water from one container to another using a syringe. Children enjoy the choices of activities on offer and are engrossed as they paint or explore the scales. Babies smile and show their enjoyment as staff teach them how to stack bricks. They enjoy looking at books with staff, helping to develop their early literacy and communication skills well. Babies begin to copy actions in singing sessions and make sounds with musical instruments. The nursery has good links with the school, which helps staff to support older children to move on in their learning with confidence.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff teach older children well to consider risks and use equipment safely, providing everyday items that help children understand. For example, children learn to handle their cutlery and pots with care at mealtimes. Babies form secure attachments to key staff, and are happy and content. Older children are cooperative and play well together. For instance, they build a train track with others, share toys and take turns. Staff are conscientious about meeting children's individual dietary requirements and health. They are attentive to children's needs and prompt to record any accidents when they occur. Staff follow babies' individual routines well, such as sleep times, and monitor them closely to check that children remain safe when sleeping and resting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident learners and develop important skills for school. For example, they listen, concentrate and take an active part in group activities. Children behave well and develop good social skills. Babies show interest in their surroundings and feel secure.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY484026 |
| Local authority | Devon |
| Inspection number | 1001555 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| Age range of children | 0 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 26 |
| Number of children on roll | 44 |
| Name of registered person | Little Orchard Montessori Nurseries Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP902225 |
| Date of previous inspection | Not applicable |
| Telephone number | 01752 658567 |

Little Orchard Montessori Nursery at Woodlands registered in 2014. The nursery operates from a prefabricated building on the premises of Woodlands Park Primary School in Devon. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week in December. The before-school and after-school club operates from 7.45am to 8.45am and 3.15pm to 6pm in a classroom on the school premises during term time only. There are eight staff employed to work with the children, two of whom have level 6 qualifications and six are qualified at level 3. The nursery receives early education funding to provide free places for children aged two, three and four years.

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