

Willow Park Montessori Day Nursery

19 Glenlyon Road, Eltham, London, SE9 1AL



Inspection date

15 March 2018

Previous inspection date

1 August 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

- Managers and staff have worked hard as a team to drive improvements. Therefore, the nursery is well organised and the quality of the provision is good.
- This nursery has a strong community feel as relationships between staff and families are positive and strong. These result in children feeling confident, secure and settled.
- There is a high number of children who have a range of home languages other than English. Staff offer high levels of support and encouragement. Therefore, all children feel valued and make good progress in their communication and language skills.
- There have been significant improvements to the observations and planning for individual children. This means that staff know children well. They provide interesting activities to help them to make good progress in readiness for starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are occasions during the early morning routine when the room becomes too cluttered for some children to be able to explore and make best use of the resources on offer.
- Although staff provide activities to support children's mathematical thinking, there are times when these group activities are not always planned well enough to sustain children's interests.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider how the available space and resources can be best organised during the early morning routine, specifically when children first arrive at the nursery
- develop further the quality of teaching by reflecting on how group activities can be planned and prepared to avoid children losing interest, especially when introducing new mathematical concepts and ideas to children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the registered provider.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled planning and assessment records and a range of other documents.

Inspector

Linda du Preez

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective as procedures to keep children safe are clear and understood by all staff. The arrangements for staff supervision include discussions about how staff can support children's progress and improve their own practice. Consequently the quality of teaching has improved since the last inspection and staff are motivated and enthusiastic. Leaders have a clear picture of the progress of individual children and how well groups of children are achieving. They work well with staff to focus on areas that will help children to catch up. For example, staff arrange activities for some children to develop self-confidence through small focused group work. Parents are extremely positive about the nursery and talk about the exceptional care staff provide and how well their children progress in readiness for starting school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff organise a range of group activities, most of which are well thought out and planned. However, there are occasions when children lose interest when staff introduce mathematical concepts. The garden is well resourced and provides good opportunities for children to learn about the natural world. For example, children enjoy looking at the fish in the safely fenced-off pond and digging in the soil as they look for worms.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are calm, caring and positive role models. They teach children to take turns and share with their friends. Children seek and receive affection from staff who are very sensitive to their needs. For example when younger children wake from sleeping they walk straight into the outstretched arms of staff for a cuddle. Staff teach children to have a go and try things for themselves and offer lots of praise when children succeed. Consequently, children are independent and confident. Overall, the rooms and outdoor area provide lots of opportunities for children to develop physical skills. Staff encourage children to tidy up and contribute to keeping their environment clean and safe. This helps children to develop an understanding of their own well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are inquisitive, motivated learners who persevere and become independent from an early age. For example, toddlers skilfully spread flavourings onto bread in readiness for snack. Older children are keen and enthusiastic learners too. They work well together and listen to each other's ideas and thoughts. For example, they delight in planning and carrying planks of wood in the outdoor area as they design balancing platforms. Children develop skills that will prepare them well for the next stage in their education. For example, some children attempt to form letters and take pride in their writing. Staff pick their moments carefully to read stories when children are interested and enthusiastic. Consequently, children across all age groups develop an enjoyment and enthusiasm for books.

Setting details

Unique reference number	509616
Local authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	1132639
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Willow Park Children's Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904331
Date of previous inspection	1 August 2017
Telephone number	0208 850 8753

Willow Park Montessori Day Nursery registered in 1992. It is located in the Eltham area of the Royal Borough of Greenwich. The nursery is open from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 48 weeks of the year. It follows Montessori methods of teaching for most of the year. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above. The manager holds a level 4 Montessori qualification.

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