

Blue Penguin Montessori

27 Burnaby Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH4 8JF



Inspection date

29 October 2015

Previous inspection date

7 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Management and staff understand their responsibilities in meeting requirements and they work together effectively as a team. This actively promotes children's care and learning.
- Teaching is good. Staff observe children's play and they plan activities to support their interests. This helps to motivate children's learning and they make good progress.
- Staff effectively promote children's good health and physical well-being. Children have regular opportunities to exercise and benefit from playing outside in the fresh air.
- Staff follow children's lead in play and they gently guide their learning. Children listen attentively to staff and are actively encouraged to make decisions about activities.
- Staff watch each other teach and they share ideas on good practice. This successfully helps them evaluate the effectiveness of activities and make ongoing improvements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always obtain as much information as possible from parents about their child's level of development when they first join the nursery to help staff plan for each child as accurately as possible, right from the start.
- Staff understand children's development and help all children make good progress. However, managers do not frequently check that any gaps in the level of attainment between different groups of children have closed or are closing very quickly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more information from parents about children's development when they first join the nursery to help staff plan even more accurately from the start
- strengthen assessment by regularly checking the attainment of different groups of children to make sure that any gaps between them have closed or are closing rapidly.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as operational policies and procedures and required records, including those relating to suitability.
- The inspector had discussions with management, staff and children.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken with at the visit.
- The inspector offered the opportunity to do a joint observation.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a suitable understanding of safeguarding children and managing any concerns to promote their welfare. Management follows clear recruitment procedures to help assess staff suitability. Staff are supported well with regular supervision to promote their professional development. Following training on child development, staff provide more resources to encourage babies' exploration and discovery in play. For example, babies showed great interest in banging small saucepans together, smiling with delight at the noise. Staff form positive partnerships with parents and keep them well informed of activities. Staff share information with other providers children attend to support continuity in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff interact positively with children and develop their communication well. For example, they reinforce babies' babbling sounds and introduce new words, such as 'hibernate', to older children. Children listen well to stories and older children start linking sounds to letters. Babies enjoy exploring different textures and making marks. Staff encourage children to develop good control and coordination skills. For example, older children concentrate well as they pour, balance and transfer a variety of objects. They show pride as they start to write recognisable letters of their names. Children enjoy imaginative games, for example, as they tuck their dolls into buggies and tell their friends they are going to the coffee shop, or cut and squeeze play dough to make 'strawberry ice cream'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a friendly, caring approach, and children respond easily to them. Staff keep consistent boundaries and children behave well as they know what is expected of them. This helps them feel safe and settled. Staff praise children often so that they gain confidence and develop positive emotional well-being. Children are cared for in a welcoming, happy environment that is planned to meet their differing needs. For example, babies crawl eagerly across soft matting to reach their toys. Older children move easily between play areas and make choices in activities. Children enjoy exercise. For example, they like going for walks to the nearby woods and beach. Children learn about keeping healthy. For example, they enjoy healthy snacks and help to grow vegetables. They develop good independence as staff encourage them to do things for themselves. Staff teach children to respect others, and help develop their understanding of other cultures.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are happy, independent and sociable learners, who enjoy the well-planned activities that staff provide for them. The skills children learn prepare them well for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY338982
Local authority	Bournemouth
Inspection number	834909
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	21
Number of children on roll	45
Name of provider	Amelia Christine Green
Date of previous inspection	7 August 2009
Telephone number	01202763791

Blue Penguin Montessori registered in 2006. It is privately owned and is situated in Alum Chine, Bournemouth. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, all year round. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The owner/manager holds a childcare qualification at level 6. She employs nine staff; one is a qualified teacher and seven hold qualifications at level 3 to level 6. The nursery operates according to the Montessori principles.

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