

Blossom Montessori School

Connaught Road, Woking, GU24 0HF



Inspection date

14 July 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 provider and the manager work well together. They regularly review all aspects of nursery life and plan effectively to maintain good standards of care and education.
- Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. Staff use their knowledge of individual children's needs and interests to plan a wide range of enjoyable and challenging experiences for all children.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents and good working relationships with the local schools and other settings that children attend. They help to provide good continuity in children's learning.
- Children are happy, demonstrate a strong sense of belonging and form positive relationships with staff. The staff show genuine care and interest during their interactions with children.
- Children behave well. They have a good understanding of what staff expect, and treat their friends and the staff with care and consideration. Staff use lots of positive encouragement and praise to build children's confidence and self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not take all opportunities to use mathematical language to develop younger children's play and to help older children solve problems.
- Staff do not always give children the time they need to think and respond to questions, to further develop their speaking and listening skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities to promote children's mathematical language and understanding, to fully encourage their progress in this area of learning
- use every opportunity to give children the time they need to respond to questions, to further promote their communication and language skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector took the views of parents into consideration.
- The inspector talked with staff, children, the manager and the provider at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation and checked evidence of the suitability checks and qualifications of staff, and the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plans.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.

Inspector

Joanne Allen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend safeguarding training and have a good understanding of how to respond to child protection concerns. Recruitment procedures are secure and the provider checks the ongoing suitability of staff. The management team reviews the provision effectively and targets areas for improvement accurately. The views of parents, staff and children are valued as part of the self-evaluation process. The manager completes regular monitoring of children's achievements to track the progress they make and identify and close gaps in their learning. Systems for monitoring staff performance and offering support to improve practice are effective. They contribute well to the professional development of all staff to ensure that teaching is of a good standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff have a good understanding of how to encourage and extend children's learning. They observe children's play and use the information they gain to plan the next steps in their learning. Children enjoy moving freely between the learning environments. They confidently and independently initiate their play using the range of good-quality resources available. Staff support children's creative skills well. For example, children enjoy craft and modelling activities, and demonstrate confidence and control while they use small tools. Staff successfully teach children about the world around them; for example, as children water the plants and plant seeds to grow their own fruits and vegetables. Parents receive regular information from staff about their children's progress. Staff work closely with parents to provide continuity in their children's learning and care.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children make strong attachments to their key person and other staff. Staff are positive role models and manage children's behaviour well. Children effectively learn about good manners, sharing, taking turns, making decisions and playing cooperatively. Staff support healthy lifestyles well and provide a wide range of activities to encourage children's physical skills. Children enjoy plenty of exercise, such as when they use the wheeled toys or join in with music and movement sessions and yoga. Staff teach children how to keep themselves safe. For example, children use scissors independently and carry tools safely. Staff create a culture and an environment which celebrate diversity and where everyone feels valued.

Outcomes for children are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the nursery and gain the skills they need in preparation for school. They show good levels of independence, such as dressing themselves for outdoor play and using cutlery to cut up their snack. Children develop good social skills, manage small tasks competently and are curious learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479240
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	982220
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Blossom Montessori & Pre-Schools Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903148
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01483 488292

Blossom Montessori School has been in operation since 1994 and re-registered in 2014 following the change in ownership status to a limited company. The nursery is open term time only. Opening hours are from 9.15am to 12.15pm and from 12.45pm to 3.45pm, Monday to Thursday, and 9.15am to 12.15pm on Friday. Parents also have the option of an early start from 8.45am to 9.15am. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs nine staff. Of these, one staff member has qualified teacher status and five hold appropriate qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery follows the Montessori approach to teaching.

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