

# Fen Drayton Montessori Nursery

The Old School House, High Street, Fen Drayton, CAMBRIDGE CB24 4SJ



<b>Inspection date</b>	27 September 2018
Previous inspection date	18 December 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

### The provision is good

- Managers and staff develop warm and positive partnerships with parents, who speak highly of staff. Parents say they are well-informed of any changes and believe their children are safe and well-cared for.
- Children enjoy their learning and develop very good levels of independence. Staff enable children to lead their own play and teach them valuable practical skills, such as serving their own meals.
- Children learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy. For example, staff talk to them about the healthy foods they eat at lunchtime and the importance of daily exercise. Children learn to manage risks, such as sliding safely down the 'fireman's pole'.
- Children who prefer to learn outdoors benefit from a well-organised, stimulating environment that helps them to develop their skills in all the areas of learning. In particular, children develop their physical skills and enjoy daily active exercise.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff have good teaching skills, some specific teaching strategies, such as those which help to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, are not implemented across the nursery to ensure children's learning is extended consistently.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor staff practice more rigorously to strengthen the consistent implementation of specific teaching strategies across the nursery and help to raise all children's achievements to the highest level.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the acting manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the acting manager and two representatives of the senior management team. She looked at evidence of the suitability of staff and discussed management processes.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection. She looked at children's learning records and discussed observation and planning with staff.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views through emails, written testimonials and surveys.

### Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff attend safeguarding training and managers test out their understanding of the signs of abuse and the procedures to follow. This helps to give them a confident understanding of how to address any concerns about children's welfare. Staff supervise children well as they play to keep them safe. They teach children about safe practices as, for example, they involve them in daily safety checks of the garden. The provider implements thorough checks on staff to establish their suitability. Managers operate effective induction procedures that help to ensure even the newest members of staff are well aware of nursery policies and routines. Staff have support from managers to increase their qualifications. They have opportunities to enhance their knowledge through in-house training events. For example, staff learn about different learning styles to help them to plan more effectively for children's good progress.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular observations of children's development to help them to plan for the next steps in learning. Activities reflect children's interests. For example, staff provide varied writing materials for children who enjoy making marks. Children explore resources with pleasure and engage well in activities. Staff encourage children to pour water down tubes and help them to speculate about what will happen next. They make good use of practical activities to promote children's mathematical skills. For example, children count out the cups and plates they need for snack. Staff help parents to share in their children's learning through daily conversations, regular meetings and frequent newsletters. They provide parents with regular updates on their children's continued progress.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Recent staff changes have been managed sensitively to effectively maintain children's confidence and trust. Staff know children well and provide them with kind support and reassurance. They get down to children's level, play with them and listen attentively to their conversations. Children behave well. They learn to share their games and interact confidently with each other. Children eat their lunch in social groups. They benefit from a varied diet that is nutritionally well-balanced and takes account of any special dietary needs.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points, including those who have additional funding. Young children develop an interest in early writing. They have fun making marks with chunky chinks in the garden. They explore different textures, such as sand, compost and dough. Children enjoy listening to stories and show a keen interest in pictures. They concentrate well as they navigate obstacle courses, which they helped to create in the garden. Children's move on to school is managed well. Good links with teachers help to promote children's confidence as they prepare for the next stage of their learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY426331
<b>Local authority</b>	Cambridgeshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10069195
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	72
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	24
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sunhill Daycare (Europe) Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP519019
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 December 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01954230030

Fen Drayton Montessori Nursery is owned by Sunhill Daycare (Europe) Ltd and registered in 2011. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round with the exception of bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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