

The Montessori Place

45 Cromwell Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 3ER



Inspection date	6 March 2019
Previous inspection date	17 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Leaders are inspirational role models. They lead a highly qualified staff team which delivers an exciting and stimulating curriculum through excellent teaching. Leaders scrupulously consider the views of everyone involved when deciding how to further develop the early years provision. Self-evaluation is rigorous.
- Children are highly motivated and get deeply engrossed in their play. The meticulously planned, stimulating learning environment provides rich and meaningful opportunities so children are actively involved in their learning. Staff rapidly respond to children's emerging interests to ensure resources capture their imaginations.
- Children thrive at the setting and all aspects of their well-being are carefully nurtured by the sensitive and perceptive staff. There is an extremely strong focus across the early years provision on promoting children's health, welfare and personal development from a young age to make sure they are ready to learn.
- There is excellent partnership working with parents from the outset, for example the home visits and family groups children attend prior to commencing. These help staff to gain a deep understanding of children and their family circumstances. Staff offer exceptional support and guidance to parents to help their children make significant progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the superb learning opportunities for children who prefer to spend their time outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the curriculum leader and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, policies, procedures and the setting's self-evaluation.
- The inspector considered the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector
Shan Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders ensure staff are trained to an incredibly high standard and are extremely knowledgeable with regard to their roles in keeping children safe. Staff recruitment is extremely rigorous and ensures staff are suitable to work with children. Leaders' evaluation of staff practice is exemplary. They support and coach all staff to reach their full potential. Each member of staff benefits from a personalised professional development plan. Staff are actively encouraged staff to gain higher qualifications should they choose to.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff's passion and commitment help to nurture and motivate children to develop a can-do attitude to learning. Children are highly engaged and focused during activities. Staff use their expert knowledge of children to guide their thinking and learning, while allowing children the freedom to test out their own ideas. For example, older children carry out science experiments using magnets. Children become highly absorbed in solving problems and enthusiastically share the outcomes. The way in which the learning environments are meticulously planned provides endless opportunities for all children to develop their mathematical skills. Staff support children to explore a very wide range of mathematical concepts, such as counting size and position. Staff captivate children with creative stories, and children join in and have immense fun with actions and singing familiar songs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Parents comment that the setting is amazing. They feel that their children have developed phenomenal social skills, and that this has had an excellent impact on their learning and development. Staff support children's physical development in exceptional ways, such as providing challenging activities for children to practise climbing, jumping, balancing, exploring and investigating. However, leaders recognise that they could provide even more learning opportunities for children who learn best outdoors. Staff manage children's behaviour very successfully. They help children to understand, value and respect their friends. For example, older children sensitively support younger children if they struggle with a task.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make swift progress in their learning and any gaps narrow rapidly. Younger children's literacy skills are well above average. They easily recognise letters and sounds. Children have outstanding personal, social and emotional development. Children of all ages play harmoniously together. Older children's early reading skills are excellent, and they can finish sentences that rhyme from stories that they know well. All children are exceptionally well prepared for future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428014
Local authority	Brighton and Hove
Inspection number	10090680
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	The Montessori Place Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902415
Date of previous inspection	17 June 2013
Telephone number	01273773764

The Montessori Place is privately owned and offers early years and school provision. It registered in 2011 and operates from a converted house in Hove, East Sussex. The setting is open each weekday from 8.45am to 3.30pm during term time only. There are six members of staff, all of whom hold early years qualifications between levels 2 and 4. The setting operates in line with the Montessori educational philosophy and provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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