

West Chiltington Montessori



Village Hall Annex, Mill Road, West Chiltington, West Sussex, RH20 2PZ

Inspection date

16 July 2015

Previous inspection date

4 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The outdoor space is used extremely effectively to extend and enhance children's learning indoors. Children greatly enjoy the additional, rich learning opportunities which support their overall development.
- Children frequently have individual attention from staff. They are a small group so children benefit from building excellent relationships with staff and freely approach them for conversation, support or comfort.
- Children are highly focused and engaged in activities that truly reflect their individual interests. Staff encourage children to direct their own play and style of learning to achieve excellent learning outcomes.
- Staff provide excellent levels of additional support for any children who need it. They liaise with parents and other professionals to identify how to help children and work together for their continued progress to achieve their best.
- Reflection and evaluation are an integral part of staff daily practice. Staff involve parents and staff from their sister settings to contribute their views, demonstrating their strong commitment to review the impact and outcome of their teaching practice for children.
- Staff are all experienced and well qualified. There is a high expectation for all staff to continue with their individual professional development. The impact of the training is evident in the enthusiasm and dedication of the staff who give children excellent learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's awareness of recognising risks indoors and outside to further extend their understanding of keeping themselves safe.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff engaging with children inside and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the managers.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents and staff to obtain their views.
- The inspector sampled documentation including planning, children's development records and staff suitability.

Inspector

Jill Steer

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The consistent, high quality teaching greatly inspires children to find things out and learn. This provides children with an excellent foundation for their move on to school. To complement this, children also prepare for going to school by having many opportunities for being independent and confidently doing things for themselves. They engage wholeheartedly in a fantastic range of activities that mostly stem from their own interests. Staff are highly skilled at knowing when to contribute to children's play and when to step back and allow them to try things alone. They encourage children's language very well through discussions and questions. Children really enjoy stories and staff make them interactive with additional resources such as puppets, so children are active participants. Children learn about the environment by discussing the weather and how it affects what they grow outside. They used some of their herbs to smell and add delicious flavouring to the chocolate cake and soup they made in the mud kitchen. Children cooked this following their indoor activity of opening a restaurant. Staff encouraged them by role playing booking a table; children 'wrote' the menus and took orders to cook outside. Staff really encourage this kind of fun activity which skilfully incorporates many aspects of learning such as mathematics, literacy and understanding of the world.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children behave extremely well, partly due to being so engaged in their play, and partly due to the excellent example set by staff. They make true friendships and show great care for each other. Children learn how to behave inside and outdoors by discussing safety and risks with staff; however, children do not help staff conduct daily checks to learn to recognise and deal with minor hazards. The time children spend outside, growing crops and being active, contributes to their good health. The healthy eating policy means children have healthy lunch boxes and snacks. The organisation of the nursery greatly encourages children to become independent.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

Staff understand the safeguarding policy very well and regularly attend training to update their knowledge of protecting children. Staff work closely with parents, teachers and others to fully support children's progress. Managers monitor all aspects of practice. They have extremely high expectations of themselves and the staff, and provide excellent care and support for staff to fulfil their roles professionally. They continuously reflect on their practice, particularly from the children's viewpoint, asking, 'What is it like for the children here?' so they can make changes that help every child reach their potential.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY392909
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	822437
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Antonia Lucy Ogden-Meade
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2009
Telephone number	01798813233

West Chiltington Montessori registered with the current owner in 2009. It is one of six privately owned and run pre-schools. The pre-school is situated in West Chiltington, West Sussex. It is open from 9am to 2.45pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and from 9am to 12.45pm on Wednesday during term times. The pre-school is not open on Fridays. There are three members of staff. One holds an appropriate early years qualification at National Vocational Qualification level 3, one has an early years foundation degree and the other member of staff has achieved Early Years Professional Status. The pre-school operates in line with the Montessori educational philosophy and provides funded free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

