

Chagford Montessori Nursery School

Montessori School, Moor Downes, Moor Park, Chagford, NEWTON ABBOT,
Devon TQ13 8BX



Inspection date	12 November 2018
Previous inspection date	30 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

The provision is outstanding

- Extremely skilled staff with very high expectations provide tailored support to ensure children achieve their full potential. Staff skilfully teach children to persevere with tasks and overcome challenges. For example, when a child is unsure what to do with an activity, the adult calmly models and explains, enabling the child to succeed and demonstrate the task to another child.
- Children are incredibly independent in making choices, completing learning tasks, self-care routines and ensuring their environment is cared for. Staff impressively model, encourage and support even the youngest children to take responsibility in managing and caring for their environment, developing impressive life skills.
- Children develop a unique understanding of the rich and diverse world through access to real and exciting multicultural activities, resources and discussion built into daily activities. They have ready access to costumes, role-play equipment, pictures and books around the nursery showing different cultures.
- Highly skilled staff model a range of highly effective strategies, such as providing narrative, repeating, extending and questioning, to develop children's language and communication skills. Children confidently talk about their ideas and experiences using complex sentences and vocabulary.
- The manager and staff have the highest expectations for themselves and every child. Children make significant progress in all areas of learning and show increasingly high levels of confidence and self-esteem.
- Highly effective parent partnerships mean that parents are fully involved in their children's learning. From the start, staff expertly support parents to share valuable information about their children's care, learning and development. Parents comment that they choose the nursery based on the calm and nurturing ethos.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to use sharply focused monitoring to identify how to develop the teaching of all areas of learning even further, to maintain the excellent quality of the provision and children's rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the nursery and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector reviewed documents, policies and procedures relating to all aspects of nursery provision and safeguarding.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records together with the nursery's systems for planning and tracking progress.

Inspector

Dilys Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and the staff are extremely vigilant in their approach. There are meticulous policies and procedures in place, and staff demonstrate an exceptionally thorough understanding of child protection legislation. There are robust systems in place for staff recruitment and the manager ensures staff are well supported in their induction and professional development. They share training, plan activities together and monitor children's progress carefully to ensure children continue to make rapid progress. The manager and the staff team are inspirational. They use self-evaluation extremely well to reflect continually on the service they provide, identify improvements and successfully implement them. The team has identified writing as an area where children have made exceptional progress and are working to identify what has made it so successful in order to replicate this across all areas of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children benefit from exceptional teaching and staff maximise all opportunities to extend learning. Skilled staff give children time to explore activities before calmly following the child's lead and interests. For example, when a young child chooses and explores a tray with natural objects and a tub of water, the adult clearly explains and models floating and sinking and the child sorts the objects appropriately. The child then shares his learning with others. Staff skilfully introduce new and more-complex vocabulary, encouraging children to describe how the paint feels on their fingers and modelling story language while engaging in role play. Children use language, such as 'semi-circle' and 'different from', when talking about a painting activity. Even the youngest children are confident communicators and are able to express their opinions. A toddler identifies that a resource has not been put away correctly, tells the adults and then puts it away.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are exceptional role models for children. They continually praise the children for their achievements and children are skilled at sharing and taking turns. Children's positive behaviour is a real strength of the nursery. Staff know the children exceptionally well and provide nurturing care, as needed, while enabling the children to develop independence and confidence to explore their environment. Children are highly engaged in their learning. They confidently make decisions and direct their play, building a tremendous sense of achievement. Children develop an excellent understanding of the importance of good health and physical skills. Staff meticulously discuss, model and practise safety routines, such as the fire drill, to ensure children fully understand what to expect and what they need to do if there was an emergency.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children of all ages make high rates of progress. They are extremely well prepared with the skills and knowledge they require for their future learning in school. Their ability to concentrate on activities is impressive. Children are inquisitive and their language skills are exceptional in relation to their age. They are extremely confident, motivated and eager learners. For example, they confidently apply mathematical concepts and increase their awareness of weights, shapes, numbers and sizes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY359539
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10073977
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Chagford Montessori Nursery School
Registered person unique reference number	RP527192
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2016
Telephone number	01647 433676

Chagford Montessori Nursery School operates from the town of Chagford, in Devon. The nursery registered under the current management in 2007 and follows the Montessori method of teaching. The nursery is open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 4pm, during school term times. It receives funding for children aged two, three and four years. There are six staff in total. Of these, three have qualifications at level 6, one has a qualification at level 4 and one has a qualification at level 3.

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