

# Little Legs of Lode Montessori Inspired Nursery



Lode Sports Club, The Fassage Recreation Ground, Lode, Cambridge,  
Cambridgeshire, CB25 9EX

**Inspection date** 7 December 2015  
Previous inspection date 11 July 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Previous inspection:</b>	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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

- Children flourish in a highly stimulating and well-resourced learning environment. The quality of teaching is outstanding. There is a strong cycle of observation, assessment and planning that precisely supports children's next steps in their learning.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development are given high priority by staff. Behaviour is exemplary. Staff consistently manage children's behaviour exceptionally well to help them develop an understanding of right and wrong. Children are polite and friendly, and are learning to take turns and share. Emerging independence is expertly supported.
- Excellent partnerships with parents ensure they are well informed about, and supported with their children's ongoing learning and well-being. These strong partnerships continue with other childcare settings that children attend.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of local safeguarding procedures and know what action they should take if they had a concern about a child's welfare. Robust risk assessments and alert staff ensure children are cared for in a safe and secure environment.
- Staff are excellent role models who work extremely well together as a team. Led by an experienced and dedicated manager, they work hard to develop the provision. Self-evaluation is effective in building upon the many strengths of the nursery.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to evolve and develop the setting to meet the needs of the children attending.

### 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 spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the provider, who is also the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. The inspector also looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Julia Sudbury

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff demonstrate an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the principles of Montessori education, skilfully linking the two together. There is robust monitoring of the education programmes and of children's progress. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The highly qualified provider reviews the performance of staff regularly to support and develop their practice. High-quality supervisions, regular staff meetings and observations of teaching practice ensure staff are supported well and their practice monitored. Self-evaluation is effective and takes account of the views of staff, parents and children. Ongoing professional development is highly valued. Parents speak highly of the setting and the very good progress their children make.

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

Highly responsive staff are quick to engage with the ideas that children bring to their learning. They skilfully join in, when appropriate, with children during activities and extend their knowledge and thinking. Children spend sustained periods of time engaged in challenging activities, becoming fully immersed in their learning. High priority is given to children's language development. The recent implementation of a specific language programme contributes to children's rapid progress. Maths is skilfully woven through all aspects of play and opportunities for early writing are provided across the nursery. Children have free access to the outside area. This ensures all children, especially those who prefer outdoor play, are motivated and eager to learn. Children's interests are known and fully understood. Staff expertly use this knowledge together with their assessments of what children know and can do, to plan learning opportunities that fully engage and motivate children. The sharing of learning records and daily feedback supports parents to be actively involved in their children's learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's emotional well-being is given high priority. Staff boost children's confidence and self-esteem with praise and reassurance. Caring and flexible relationships between children and their key person provide a secure base from which children learn and develop. Settling-in arrangements are managed sensitively and in partnership with parents. Opportunities for children to become independent are plentiful and expertly supported by staff. Children are offered an interesting range of healthy snacks to develop their tastes. They grow vegetables at the setting's allotment and understand why they need to wash their hands to get rid of bugs. Children have regular opportunities to be active and engage in physical play. This helps them to start to value a healthy lifestyle.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Staff support children effectively with high-quality teaching. The provider reviews the progress of the children and any needs are identified and quickly met. Strong links with other settings children attend ensure a highly collaborative approach to children's learning and development. Regular and precise assessments show children are making excellent progress and are well prepared for school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY417843
<b>Local authority</b>	Cambridgeshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	851873
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	27
<b>Name of provider</b>	Sharon Audrey Maskall
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 July 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01223 812198

Little Legs of Lode Montessori Inspired Nursery was registered in 2011. The nursery employ five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 4 or above, including one with Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school opens 9.15am until 12.45pm, Monday to Friday, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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