

Windsor Montessori School

Romney Lock Road, Home Park, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6HX



Inspection date

6 July 2016

Previous inspection date

27 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The management team encourages an extremely positive culture of reflective practice, seeking and acting quickly upon the views of staff, parents and children.
- Rigorous and sharp assessments, along with an excellent knowledge of children's interests and abilities, enable staff to provide a wealth of highly engaging and challenging activities. As a result, any gaps in children's learning close rapidly.
- Children's physical and emotional well-being is supported exceptionally well. They develop an excellent understanding of how to make healthy choices and keep themselves safe.
- The superb range of accessible resources and equipment offers a highly stimulating environment for children to learn and build on their rapidly developing skills.
- Staff provide an exceptional range of high-quality learning experiences for children. They demonstrate their outstanding teaching practices and skills through role modelling and clear explanation. Staff set realistic challenges and encourage children extremely well in finding their own solutions to problems.
- Staff build strong relationships with the teachers from local schools, which supports children extremely well for their move into school.
- Parents are extremely happy with the quality of the setting; one parent described it as being 'absolutely brilliant'.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the range of opportunities available to extend children's learning and development for those that prefer to learn outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities and play experiences available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and observed practice with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents about their views and opinions of the provision.
- The inspector sampled documentation and children's development records.

Inspector

Hazel Farrant

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate an excellent knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare. Children's safety is of the utmost importance. Since the previous inspection, the management team has worked very hard and has made many improvements. For example, procedures to ensure staff's ongoing suitability and regular supervision are now firmly in place, along with safe recruitment procedures for all new staff. Children's attendance is now accurately recorded. These changes improve children's safety immensely. The management team and staff are very well qualified and highly experienced, and they regularly update their training. This enables them to consistently deliver high quality teaching to ensure children make rapid progress in their learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff know the children extremely well. They gather comprehensive information from parents about their children, which they use to assess and meticulously plan for children's individual learning needs. Staff are highly effective in involving parents in children's learning right from the start. Children are skilfully supported to explore and understand the world around them and they develop an excellent understanding of the local community and beyond. Their communication and language skills are developing exceptionally well. For example, older children spell out words phonetically as they play word games. Children's understanding of mathematical concepts is exceptional. They count and recognise numbers confidently and are able to represent numbers beyond 1000, using a wide variety of play resources.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Attachments between children and staff are very strong. Staff are incredibly warm and nurturing. They have a very gentle approach to supporting children to understand boundaries and expectations. Children have excellent opportunities to play outside energetically each day. The management team is looking into ways of using the outside area more creatively to further support children's development and enjoyment, especially for those who prefer to be outside.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children's independence and self-care skills are very well promoted. For example, children enthusiastically wash their own cups and plates after mealtimes as part of the normal routine of the day. Children are extremely happy, confident and strongly motivated. They are developing superb skills to enable them to move on to their next steps in learning and are exceptionally well prepared for the move on to school. Children behave exceptionally well; they are very caring and respectful of each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	108435
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	1034016
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	Rathnavali Menik Ellawala
Registered person unique reference number	RP511939
Date of previous inspection	27 November 2015
Telephone number	01753 868399 or 01344 844592

Windsor Montessori School, Home Park registered in 1980. It operates from a single storey building situated in Home Park, Windsor. The school employs two members of childcare staff, including the manager. Both hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. Opening times are from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 12.45pm and from 1.30pm until 3.30pm, and full day care is offered from 8.30am until 3.30pm or 4pm. The setting provides funded early education for children aged three and four years. The setting follows the Montessori educational philosophy and is a member of the Association Montessori International (AMI).

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