

Merrydays Montessori Nursery School



Memorial Hall, Station Road, HENLEY-IN-ARDEN, West Midlands, B95 5JP

Inspection date	3 February 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 quality of teaching across the nursery is outstanding. All practitioners are very well trained and have an excellent knowledge of how children learn. The expectations of children's achievements are very high in all areas of their learning and development.
- Practitioners recognise the uniqueness of each child in their care. The enthusiastic and very caring team ensure children's needs are exceptionally well met. Children successfully develop a strong sense of security, confidence and highly trusting relationships with practitioners.
- Children have exemplary support to foster their personal, social and emotional development and their language and communication skills through robust practitioner understanding and practice.
- The principal is highly effective in driving improvement and demonstrates an uncompromising commitment towards achieving excellence in all areas.
- Inclusion is given excellent priority and highly successful partnerships between parents, carers and other agencies ensure children's needs are met very successfully.
- Excellent priority is given to safeguarding and protecting children. This is evident through the extremely effective practices that promote children's well-being and safety very well.

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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 provision for children to develop their independence by being able to make choices about playing outdoors or indoors, to further enhance their excellent play and learning opportunities, physical development and well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery with the principal.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor learning environment and accompanied practitioners and children on a 'listening walk' in the local area.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the principal.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and talked to the principal about their plans for improvement.
- The inspector took into account the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Jacqueline Nation

Inspection findings

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

Children make outstanding progress in their learning and development. They are very motivated and engaged in their play, and are exceptionally well prepared for school. Practitioners use their expertise in teaching to provide an outstanding range of learning opportunities. Practitioners are skilled in engaging children in conversation, developing their spoken language skills. Children choose the materials they wish to work with and benefit from prolonged periods of uninterrupted time to play and experiment. Children's creative skills are developing extremely well. They proudly show the 'wind socks' they have created and their lovely paintings. All children love to sing, listen to stories and use an extensive range of natural materials for counting and sorting. Older children explore their local area with confidence and thoroughly enjoy time spent on their 'listening walk'.

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

Children thrive in this unique and carefully organised learning environment. They choose freely from an excellent range of resources and use a wealth of inspiring Montessori equipment to complete practical life activities. An excellent emphasis is placed on children's personal, emotional and social development. Children form extremely secure emotional attachments and caring relationships with all practitioners, and particularly their key person. Practitioners provide children with excellent role models because they have a calm and nurturing approach. Children's behaviour is excellent and they learn to respect and value their environment. Children's safety and well-being is given high priority. They learn how to keep themselves safe while using equipment and on outings. Children's health and well-being is fostered very effectively. There are excellent opportunities to spend time outdoors and visit the forest school area where practitioners inspire children to engage with nature. However, there is room to enhance opportunities for children to move freely between the indoor and outdoor play space.

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

The nursery is very well led and effectively managed with a strong focus on promoting high quality in all aspects of the provision. Excellent attention is given to safeguarding children and practitioners have a very good understanding of their responsibility to protect children. Robust arrangements for recruiting new practitioners, for regular supervision and checking practitioner performance lead to a high level of consistency of practice. Exceptional arrangements are in place to monitor the quality of teaching and learning and include excellent opportunities for training and development. A thorough analysis of assessment information means that children's learning needs are identified and planned for. The arrangements for partnership working with other providers and agencies ensure children's needs are met well. Parents are invited to regular meetings to talk about their child's progress and the next steps for their learning. Parents speak very highly about the nursery, the principal and the practitioner team, and how their children flourish in this nursery.

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Setting details

Unique reference number	200679
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	1001300
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	48
Name of provider	Helen Everley
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01564792427 01926843098

Merrydays Montessori Nursery opened in 1958 and was registered in 2000. The nursery employs twelve members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold Montessori qualifications at level 4, and one with Early Years Professional status and three with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens, from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are, from 9.15am until 12.15pm and 1.15pm until 3.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-,three- and four-year-old children. The nursery is an accredited Montessori nursery

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