

Townsend Montessori Nursery Faversham

2B Euro Centre, Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8ED



Inspection date	29 May 2018
Previous inspection date	3 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The strong management team is led by an ambitious owner and dedicated manager. They lead by example and effectively support an enthusiastic and well-qualified staff team. Staff work well together to develop and maintain the good quality of care.
- Children develop strong attachments with the staff from the start. They settle quickly and comfortably in the nursery. Staff are sensitive and caring and children happily seek staff's company in their play or if they need a reassuring cuddle. Parents comment that their children receive 'brilliant' care.
- Staff maintain a stimulating and well-planned environment. They provide a good range of exciting and challenging resources and activities, indoors and outside. Children develop and practise good skills to support their future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully established highly successful systems to share information about children's learning with all parents, especially those who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff do not always make the most of their assessments, to help identify children's rates of progress and plan to further support them to raise their achievements to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance methods of communication with parents who speak English as an additional language, to ensure they are fully involved in their children's learning
- build on systems to identify children's rates of progress even more fully, to further encourage children's good development in all areas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the staff and children during a play session and planned activities.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including the nursery's policies and staff records.
- The inspector talked to parents and children and also considered the views of parents from their written feedback.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager has a clear focus on ensuring children are safe and well protected. She implements robust recruitment procedures which help to ensure the suitability of staff. The management team works well to ensure all staff have a good understanding of their role and the processes and procedures to follow to keep children safe. The manager monitors staff practice well and offers regular support and coaching. Staff attend regular training opportunities which help them make positive changes to practice. For example, staff used knowledge gained from training to help them recognise how they could further support individual children's needs. By using simple techniques, staff effectively support children who are less vocal than others to develop their early communication skills. The manager works closely with staff and parents to help her evaluate practice and make effective changes when required.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff are good teachers. They provide lots of opportunities for children to initiate their own play and explore their own ideas. Staff recognise how and when to involve themselves, to further support children's learning. For example, staff introduce simple questions to encourage children to use their developing language and exploratory skills in water play. Young children start to repeat and recognise the colours of the resources they are using to pour the water. Staff tailor questions to extend older children's understanding. Children use well-developed mathematical skills, for instance, to weigh fruit in a play shop. They confidently place real fruit on the scales and talk to the staff about the higher number on the scale, to show fruit that is 'heavier'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff maintain a welcoming, safe and secure environment and they supervise children well. Staff are good role models. They help children to learn from a young age how to manage their behaviour. Children behave well. They enjoy playing with their friends and show good levels of self-control and cooperation. For example, children consistently use simple manners, such as saying 'please' and 'thank you' in their play. They enjoy helping and show pride in completing simple jobs, such as using a dustpan and brush to help sweep the floor. Staff support children's health and personal care effectively. Children practise their developing self-care skills. For instance, young children help themselves to tissues. They use a mirror to help them ensure they have wiped their noses well.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children progress well from their starting points. They are enthusiastic and active learners who develop lifelong skills which support their independence. For example, young children show emerging coordination at snack time. They use their early physical skills to use spoons to scoop fruit onto their plates. Older children show well-developed skills as they pour their own drinks into glass cups and use knives to spread butter on their crackers. These skills help to prepare children for their next stage in learning and their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY425824
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1094777
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	0 - 5
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	229
Name of registered person	Townsend Montessori Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP906980
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2015
Telephone number	01795 539803

Townsend Montessori Nursery Faversham registered in 2011. It follows the Montessori method of education. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 36 members of staff. Of these, 26 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above.

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