

Beechoak Farm Montessori Preschool

Church Road, High Beech, Loughton, Essex IG10 4AJ



Inspection date	3 April 2019
Previous inspection date	5 January 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

This provision is outstanding

- Leaders and staff work exceptionally well together as a cohesive team. They ensure that all children receive the individual attention they need to achieve to the best of their ability.
- All children make rapid and significant progress in their learning. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language receive dedicated teaching and support. This high-quality teaching focuses directly on the areas where children need to develop most in order to reach their goals.
- Staff see parents as partners in the care and teaching of the children. Parents are delighted to work alongside staff during regular parent craft sessions to encourage and support their children. This excellent parent involvement helps children to develop a deep sense of belonging to the preschool and they blossom and flourish.
- Leaders and staff provide a thoroughly inclusive environment where all children and parents feel valued and welcome. They ensure that they effectively plan activities to help children to learn to respect each other and to be kind and caring towards each other.
- Children become independent from an early age. They are involved in the routines of the preschool and learn to keep themselves safe. Staff carry out rigorous risk assessments of all areas of the preschool daily and children become aware of their surroundings particularly when exploring outside.
- Parents are eager to give their positive feedback about their children's experiences in the preschool. Staff and managers carry out regular self-evaluation and reflect on their activities and practice daily. Managers regularly update a clear action plan for the continuous development of the preschool.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to source a variety of training and professional development opportunities for staff to enhance the already exemplary arrangements and to help to raise the quality of their teaching to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities in all rooms and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and provider and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff, children's developmental records and other relevant documentation.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders and managers are extremely ambitious. They have exceedingly high expectations of themselves and their staff. They are keen to extend the range of training and professional development opportunities available to their excellent staff team. Leaders plan to further develop training opportunities for staff to help them to be fully equipped with the skills they need to continue to deliver a high-quality service. Supervision of staff is exceptionally strong. Managers and staff observe each other's teaching and deliver insightful and constructive feedback to drive forward continuous improvements. Safeguarding is effective. All staff are extremely confident in their knowledge of safeguarding matters. They are exceedingly well-informed about the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's well-being. Recruitment procedures are rigorous and managers constantly check that all staff remain suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are extremely active and enthusiastic learners. They eagerly respond to the exciting and challenging activities presented to them. For example, children flock around a staff member who produces a tray full of objects. They enthusiastically count the number of items on the tray and try to memorise them. They concentrate hard, trying to remember what has been taken away. This helps to promote children's thinking skills, memory and concentration. Staff use an excellent range of high-quality resources to support children's individual progress. For instance, they provide alternative types of resources that ignite children's interest in practising finger control when they are reluctant to use a pencil. Highly effective monitoring of the progress of individuals and specific groups of children ensures that all children achieve to the best of their potential.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide children with truly exceptional outdoor experiences that help to teach them fascinating facts about the natural world. For example, staff take children in small groups out into the fields where they explore the natural environment and hunt for mini-beasts. They feed and pet the farm animals and learn how to care for them. Children plant and tend vegetables in the garden. They take their produce to the cook for use in their meals. Children have excellent opportunities for physical exercise indoors and outdoors. For example, they enjoy Salsa dancing and yoga classes and recite the names of different moves. Children balance on beams and stepping stones in the garden as they go 'on a bear hunt' with staff who make the activity thrilling. Their imagination holds no bounds as they pretend to wade through rivers and snowstorms.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children become exceptionally fluent talkers and their grasp of vocabulary is strong. Children of all ages enjoy choosing books for staff to read to them. They are confident to speak up in a group. Older children learn excellent skills that help them to become ready for school. For example, they use their fingers to trace shapes in glitter and delight in writing their name. Younger children are fascinated as they experiment with mixing paint to see what colours they can make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402271
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10072912
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	152
Name of registered person	Beechoak Farm Montessori Preschool Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP523924
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2016
Telephone number	0208 502 0006

Beechoak Farm Montessori Preschool registered in 1996. The preschool employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The preschool opens from Monday to Friday, from 8am until 5pm, all year round. The preschool provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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