

Maldon Court Preparatory School Nursery

Maldon Court School, 10 Silver Street, Maldon, CM9 4QE



Inspection date

18 May 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
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 manager is highly ambitious and sets extremely high standards. Staff successfully rise to this challenge. They show admirable passion and dedication towards using their knowledge and experience to provide first-rate learning experiences for children.
- All children and babies are extremely eager to explore and try new things. They make excellent progress and rapidly develop the skills they need for future learning.
- Staff work extremely closely with the school and there are excellent arrangements to prepare children for the transfer on to the pre-reception classroom.
- Children and babies flourish in the nursery. Their unique needs and interests are particularly well supported. Their behaviour is exemplary and they show a real sense of maturity. Children are sociable, always kind and play collaboratively.
- Staff promote children's physical well-being and their understanding of the importance of safe and healthy lifestyles to an exceptionally high standard.
- The nursery is organised to provide an extremely comfortable home-from-home setting. Staff provide a nurturing, clean and incredibly well-resourced play environment that encourages children and babies to choose and explore independently.
- Partnerships with and support for parents is exceedingly strong. Excellent strategies successfully ensure that parents are fully involved in their children's learning. Parents say they value the superb quality of the care and education their children receive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further the already rich opportunities for children to follow their interests in the outdoor area and review the impact of this on children's imagination and creativity.

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 carried out a joint observation with the manager and viewed a sample of the children's records.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and the teacher from the pre-reception classroom.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff, self-evaluation, risk assessment and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from those spoken to on the day and from the written testimonials obtained by the nursery.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are extremely knowledgeable about local child protection procedures. Rigorous recruitment procedures and comprehensive background checks ensure that children are always cared for by suitable adults. Staff's ongoing suitability is constantly addressed through regular appraisals, supervision meetings and monitoring observations of their performance. The well-qualified staff are extremely keen to enhance their continuing professional development and seek out even more effective ways to broaden and improve their practice. The dynamic manager also actively seeks and uses the views of staff, parents and children to bring about carefully planned improvements. She has identified plans to increase and review opportunities for imaginative play outdoors, based on children's learning needs and interests.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have an outstanding knowledge of how children learn. They inspire and challenge children to do their very best at any activity they undertake. There is an excellent approach to assessing and tracking children's development. This is applied to key groups and individual children and enables staff to meticulously plan for their learning needs. There is an extremely strong focus on activities that promote investigation, exploration and experimentation with children using all of their senses, both indoors and outside. The quality of staff's interactions with children is consistently outstanding. They expertly support speech pronunciation and are skilled at introducing vocabulary and descriptive language. Staff introduce stories extremely effectively. They share books, props and puppets to keep babies and children enthralled.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely happy and confident. Staff work very closely with parents and children benefit from very strong continuity of care. There are highly effective settling-in procedures to support new children attending the nursery. Staff use meaningful praise and reassurance to boost children's self-esteem. They organise daily routines superbly to facilitate children's self-care and independent learning. Even the youngest children learn to pour their own drinks and help to prepare fruit for snack time. Children build respectful relationships with each other and are always polite and helpful.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children show excellent involvement and concentration as they play. They make their own decisions and exciting discoveries. Children develop their physical skills with exuberance and enjoyment. They know when they need to listen carefully. Children make rapid progress from their starting points. They are working at or exceeding the development levels expected for their age and are well prepared for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480188
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1033072
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Cromwell Hall LLP
Registered person unique reference number	RP525568
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01621 853529

Maldon Court Preparatory School Nursery registered in 2014 and is run by a limited liability partnership. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and the manager holds early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term times. Opening times are from 8.30am until 3.30pm.

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