

Inspection of Holly Grange Montessori

36 OUGHTRINGTON LANE, LYMM, CHESHIRE WA13 0RA

Inspection date:

21 August 2025

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely happy and confident in their surroundings. They consistently demonstrate a strong sense of belonging. A positive, inclusive ethos is evident across all the nursery rooms. Leaders and staff create a bespoke curriculum that is exciting, flexible and ambitious. They identify the important key skills and knowledge that children will learn over time. Staff provide highly effective teaching methods in a rich and exciting learning environment, which results in children making excellent progress. For example, children develop a detailed understanding of animals as they learn new concepts. For instance, children identify the difference between the lion, lioness and cub, when learning about different animals. Leaders closely monitor the curriculum to ensure children continue to be fully engaged in their learning and are making excellent progress over time.

Staff are highly successful at providing children with a wide range of experiences that value and celebrate diversity. They support children to recognise their individuality while also appreciating similarities and differences. Partnership with parents is strong. Staff share information regularly to engage parents in their child's learning journey. This helps families stay actively involved in their child's learning journey and promotes positive attitudes to learning. Children at this nursery make exceptional progress from their starting points and are ready for the next stage in their learning, including starting school.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff implement a highly effective curriculum that meets the needs of children across all ages and stages of development. In the baby room, there is a strong emphasis on promoting physical development. Staff create experiences to build core strength. Babies demonstrate impressive concentration as they engage in floor-based activities. Toddlers are introduced to exploratory experiences, such as mark-making and painting with ice. These stimulating and creative experiences spark curiosity and set children on an exciting journey of discovery and inquisitive learning.
- Leaders have established strong links with external agencies that offer additional support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Ongoing training equips staff to deliver targeted interventions that promote each child's learning. Staff develop the expertise they need to accommodate children's individual needs. This inclusive, consistent approach enables all children to make positive progress from their starting points.
- Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the garden. They relish the opportunities to explore the natural world, where they are encouraged to take risks safely. Staff complete thorough risk assessments and use these opportunities to teach

children how to manage risks themselves. For example, when climbing trees, children are supported to set their own limits with close supervision. This builds independence, confidence and critical thinking. Children understand how to keep themselves safe and are confident to seek help when needed.

- Children enjoy healthy, home-cooked meals. They learn to understand their individual dietary requirements and those of their peers. Children talk about the healthy food on their plates and know that chicken is protein and helps your bones grow strong. They develop an awareness of the importance of eating healthily. Staff also explain that small amounts of less healthy foods are acceptable as part of a balanced diet, helping children to make informed and healthy choices.
- Children develop a secure understanding of the world around them. They acquire valuable practical life skills through a wide range of experiences. Staff support children to recognise and manage their feelings and emotions. For example, children are encouraged to take part in 'Big Feeling Walks'. This allows children to explore their own emotions. This helps them to understand how they feel and enables them to express their emotions using their well-developed vocabulary.
- Staff make excellent use of their training to continually enhance practice and enrich children's experiences. For instance, following recent 'movement' training, all children now begin their day outdoors. This provides valuable opportunities for physical activity and exercise before moving into more focused learning. This enables children to demonstrate high levels of engagement and concentration and readiness to learn.
- Parents value the nursery's welcoming, homely environment and the strong support from staff. Staff ensure parents are fully involved in nursery life. They create a shared approach that helps children thrive. They work closely with families, including those of children with SEND, to provide timely support and targeted interventions. This helps parents to support children's learning further at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2502052
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10399124
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 3
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	66
Name of registered person	Holly Grange Montessori Nursery (Lymm) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2502051
Telephone number	01925752111
Date of previous inspection	20 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

Holly Grange Montessori originally registered in 2014 and re-registered in 2019 following a change in company details. The nursery employs 14 members of staff. Of these, ten hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jason Holmes

Inspection activities

- Leaders and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the setting and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Leaders showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2025