

Kings Pre-School

St. Philips & St. James Church, King George Road, CHATHAM, Kent, ME5 0TZ



Inspection date

4 February 2015

Previous inspection date

10 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children demonstrate their inquisitive natures because staff provide a wide range of good quality, interesting toys and activities for children to explore at their own pace.
- Staff use good strategies to teach children how to manage their own behaviour so that they learn to work together to solve problems during shared learning activities.
- Staff provide good support for those children who are learning English as an additional language. As a result, they are closing any gaps in their learning. All children are developing good communication and listening skills.
- The provider uses good strategies to ensure that staff keep children safe. She has a strong understanding of the appropriate local authority reporting procedures in order to act upon any concerns quickly to protect children.
- Staff give children's physical safety a high priority. They effectively teach children about risks and hazards as they play.
- Parents are very pleased with the care given to their children. They report that staff are very welcoming to themselves and the children. They comment that they have regular consultations with staff about their children's learning, especially when staff are completing their child's two year check.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff focus on teaching children about numbers, but sometimes forget to include other types of mathematical language during their conversations with children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase staff's use of language relating to weight, volume and measurement during children's activities to extend their understanding of different mathematical concepts.

Inspection activities

- The inspector talked to the provider, staff, parents and children to obtain their views about the setting.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents including the children's learning journey records and the progress tracking reports.
- The inspection carried out a short, joint observation with the provider in the garden.
- The inspector observed the interaction between children and staff during activities both inside and outdoors.

Inspector

Linda Coccia

Inspection findings

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

Children have good opportunities to use different tools to make marks both indoors and outside. For example, outside children use sticks dipped in mud to make shapes on large sheets of paper. Staff allow children to lead activities of their own choosing because they recognise that children develop decision making skills and learn from activities that interest them. Staff enthuse children to explore books and be involved in storytelling. Children are familiar with numbers and can group items together in shape and size. However, staff don't always use other mathematical language, such as weight and volume, during everyday play activities with children. Staff build on developing children's listening and communication skills, confidence and independence. Therefore, they prepare children well for any changes in their learning, such as, moving on to school.

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

Staff use good methods to help children settle in and help them make good use of activities. Parents can stay with children for as long as they need to. All the children show they feel emotionally safe and secure with the staff. New children respond well to distractions which help them separate from their parents. Children show they feel physically secure too as they move freely around choosing their own activities. Children have good opportunities to have physical play sessions in the small garden. Although there are restrictions regarding the use of equipment imposed on the provider by the church committee. Children participate in team games or play independently with different toys on the paved area. Staff teach children to be independent at snack time as children serve themselves food and pour their own drinks. Staff sit with the children as they eat in order to teach children about healthy diets and nutritious food.

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

The provider promotes her staffs' professional development very well. They are encouraged to link into the local authority training programmes in order to extend their own learning and subsequently that of the children. Staff share their learning at staff meetings in order to be proficient at delivering new ideas and activities to the children. The setting has good partnership working with the local children's centre and other professional partners, such as, Health Visitors and the speech and language service, Parents are able to see lots of information about children's activities on the pre-school's internet pages. The provider effectively monitors the activities planned each day to ensure staff are catering for all children and they are progressing well in all areas of learning given their starting points and capabilities. The provider effectively evaluates the setting and is able to implement plans to improve the outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462287
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	962591
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	29
Name of provider	Deborah Mary Fouch
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2014
Telephone number	01634 681 671

Kings Pre-School is privately owned and is situated in Chatham, Kent. It opened under its current owner in 2013 and operates from a church hall. It is open each weekday from 9am to noon, term time only. The pre-school is registered on the Early Years Register. There are six members of staff, including the provider. Of these two staff have Qualified Teacher Status and the remaining four staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at National Vocation Qualification level three. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four-years.

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