

# Smarty Tots

5 Millfield, FOLKESTONE, Kent, CT20 1EU



## Inspection date

13 February 2015

Previous inspection date

9 February 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff have developed good key-person arrangements. Consequently, they build good relationships with children so they feel safe and secure.
- Staff develop and maintain strong relationships with parents. They communicate effectively with parents and value their views.
- Safeguarding is a given a high priority which means that all children remain safe.
- Staff use their good knowledge and skills to promote children's communication and language skills in a variety of ways.
- Staff assess children's development well and use their knowledge to plan a broad range of learning opportunities. They provide stimulating and motivating resources and activities to meet the needs of all children. As a result, children make good progress.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide consistent opportunities for children to develop their independence during snack times.
- The outdoor area lacks the range of visual aids and displays that are evident indoors.
- Staff do not always fully engage younger children during daily routines.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enable all children to have more opportunities to develop their independence at snack time
- extend the use of visual aids in the outdoor area to further promote children's interest, learning and interaction
- improve the organisation of daily routines so that all younger children remain engaged and interested.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the nursery that children use.
- The inspector observed staff interacting with the children.
- The inspector sampled written documentation, including children's progress reports, policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children, and took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

## Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

## Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a good variety of activities to promote learning and development across all areas. Staff monitor children's learning and plan for their progression well. Children are encouraged to choose activities and staff skilfully extend learning using the interests of individual children. At snack time, staff pour children's drinks and provide pre-cut fruit. Therefore, they do not always encourage children's independence at this time. Children of all ages engage in stories and singing. Babies actively join in and show their enjoyment through their developing speech as they babble and smile. Indoors, staff use visual displays well to prompt discussion and promote children's communication and language skills. However, there are fewer pictures and visual prompts in the outdoor area. Children develop mathematical skills and language as they complete shape puzzles and engage in imaginative play as they count 'car parking tickets'. Staff involve parents in children's learning which helps to provide a consistent approach to their learning. For example, staff share resources with parents and use two-way communication books.

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

Staff maintain good relationships with children who are settled and excited to attend. Children engage in spontaneous conversations with staff who respond positively. Staff are deployed well, indoors and outdoors, to support children as they explore. However, younger children sometimes have to wait during daily routines, such as hand washing, and lose interest. Staff talk to children about how to stay safe. Children comment 'We have to take the stairs one at a time'. Staff consistently model good behaviour and manners, and consequently, children behave well. Staff develop good relationships with outside agencies and other settings. As a result, they provide good support for children who require additional help to make good progress. Staff help children to build their confidence and teach them the skills they need for future learning. They prepare children well for the move to school through visits from their new teacher, and role-play experiences.

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

Management and staff have good knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements to help them protect children. They have a clear understanding of potential risks and are confident to follow the correct procedures. Staff use thorough risk assessment to ensure the premises remain safe. Management regularly monitor the quality of provision to improve outcomes for children, by continuing to make positive changes. The manager uses effective procedures to ensure the suitability of all staff. Management support staff's professional development through regular supervisions and training. All staff hold early years qualifications. Parents comment positively about the setting. Parents say they feel fully involved in their children's learning. Teaching is effective and as a result, all children make good progress.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY339915
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	828359
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	36
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	65
<b>Name of provider</b>	Smarty Pants Nursery School Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	9 February 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	01303 850515

Smarty Tots is one of two nurseries run by Smarty Pants Nursery School Ltd. It opened in 2006 and is situated in the centre of Folkestone. It is open each weekday from 8am to 4.30pm for 48 weeks of the year. There are 11 members of staff, 10 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least National Vocational level 3. Four members of staff are undertaking further training. The setting provides funded early education for three- and four-year-olds.

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