

Woodlands Nursery and Preschool



Woodlands Nursery & Preschool, 334 Minster Road, Minster on Sea, SHEERNESS,
Kent, ME12 3PE

Inspection date 19 February 2015
Previous inspection date 12 April 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The managers have not completed thorough recruitment background checks to ensure that all staff appointed to work with children are suitably experienced to do so.
- Staff do not always fully promote children's independence and self-care skills during meal and snack times.

It has the following strengths

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff have a strong understanding of how children learn and develop. They use this knowledge effectively to plan stimulating and challenging opportunities that extend children's learning. As a result, children make good progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities.
- Staff promote positive partnerships with parents and involve them in their children's learning.
- Staff ensure that the premises are secure and safe, which promotes children's well-being.
- Children have strong bonds and relationships with their key person, ensuring that their well-being and self-esteem are promoted well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- develop thorough recruitment and vetting procedures to gain suitable background information on staff working with children.

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

- review the organisation of snack time so that children may choose when to have a snack without interrupting their learning, and support children to increase their independence by encouraging them to help themselves at mealtimes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in activities and their interactions with staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the room leader.
- The inspector had discussions with the room leader and manager, and spoke with members of staff.
- The inspector looked at children's records, staff records, planning documentation, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their good knowledge of how children learn to provide them with a range of activities that support their learning and development. Consequently, children make good progress. Staff know the children well. They regularly monitor and assess their progress to ensure any gaps are identified quickly. Staff work very closely with parents and other professionals to enable children to make good progress. Children are confident and enjoy interacting and engaging in group activities. For example, children explored the outdoor area together looking for treasure. Staff supported children's ideas well while extending their learning, leading to children counting and comparing objects they found. Staff encourage children to develop self-care skills while washing their hands before mealtimes and after messy play. However, staff do not always allow children to choose when to have snack, and interrupt their learning as a result. Staff do not always encourage children to serve themselves at lunchtime, missing opportunities to develop skills needed to prepare children for their next stage in learning.

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

An effective key-person system supports children's well-being and enables them to feel safe and secure. Children are confident and have good levels of self-esteem. Children's behaviour is good because staff create a stimulating environment and provide positive praise and encouragement to children. Children have daily access to the garden, where they benefit from fresh air and physical play. Staff attend training and have development opportunities, which help to improve teaching skills and have a positive impact on the quality of teaching. Staff have established good links with local primary schools to effectively support children's transitions. As a result, children are well prepared to move on to their next stage of learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The provider does not have thorough recruitment and vetting processes, as they do not carry out background checks on staff's previous experience or query gaps in employment history through an application form and references. There is no direct impact on children because completed Disclosure and Barring Service checks ensure the staff's suitability to work with children. Managers have a system to regularly supervise and check staff performance. Monitoring ensures that any development needs for staff are identified and, as a result, training and support are provided. Staff understand their responsibilities for safeguarding children, and know what they would do if they have concerns about a child. The manager monitors children's progress, which allows her to identify any gaps in learning of individuals or groups of children, including those with additional needs. Self-evaluation is effective. The views of staff, parents and children are valued, which results in improvements that promote positive outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418823
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	832533
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	94
Name of provider	Sarah Ives and Andrea Yates Partnership
Date of previous inspection	12 April 2011
Telephone number	01795875849

Woodlands Nursery and Pre-school was registered under new ownership in 2010. It operates from a purpose-built nursery in Minster-on-Sea. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.00pm, 51 weeks of the year. A baby room is provided for children younger than two years of age. Children between the ages of two and five years are based in a pre-school room. The group currently supports a number of children with special educational needs. There are 19 members of staff, 18 of whom hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications. The setting provides funded early education for two, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

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 Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, 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 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

