

Chalk Village Pre-School

Chalk Parish Hall, Chalk Road, Chalk, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2ND



Inspection date	12 March 2015
Previous inspection date	12 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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		Outstanding	1
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

- Staff have an excellent knowledge of the children's individual needs and interests. This supports children to develop and practise new skills well.
- Staff implement a key person system which establishes excellent emotional bonds with children from the start. This supports children to feel very safe, which gives them confidence and prepares them for their future learning.
- Staff maintain a well-resourced and stimulating environment both inside and outdoors, which challenges children and promotes learning.
- Staff support children effectively to develop their knowledge of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- Staff consider the daily routine well. This enables children of all ages to explore new experiences and to follow their individual interests.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to enhance children's learning further as they do not always ask them effective questions consistently.
- Staff do not fully consider all possible ways to share information about children's learning with parents, including those who speak English as an additional language.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff's use of questioning techniques to further support children to extend their ideas.
- enhance methods of communication with parents, including those who speak English as an additional language to ensure they are all fully involved in their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children both indoors and outdoors during child initiated and adult-led activities
- The inspector held discussions with staff regarding individual children's development and welfare needs.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation including policies and children's development records.
- The inspector discussed with parents and children their views about the pre-school.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

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

Staff promote children's learning through play and activities effectively. For example, they introduce counting as they interact with children and encourage children to join in with them. This helps children to develop their skills further. Staff observe and record children's achievements and development well. They identify children's next steps in learning and areas where more support may be needed. This ensures children are making good progress and that they develop the skills needed for moving onto school. Staff support individual children's needs securely. They work with parents and other professionals closely and implement strategies to ensure gaps in children's learning are closed successfully. Staff encourage children to initiate their own learning and to continue their learning at home. For example, staff provided craft materials to make spaceships and allowed children to take home books about space to share at home.

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

Children are very settled and extremely comfortable in the care of staff and the welcoming pre-school environment. Staff work closely with parents to gather a wide range of information about children's likes, dislikes and care needs. As a result, staff meet children's needs very effectively. Children's confidence and behaviour reflects the secure attachments they have with staff and enables their learning to take place. Staff act as excellent role models to the children. They speak clearly to the children and with respect, and offer unlimited support and encouragement. Children show a thorough understanding of the golden rules which promote positive ways to behave and keep safe. Staff encourage children to develop high levels of independence and self-care.

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

The managers have a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff maintain a safe and secure environment through effective daily risk assessments. They have a good understanding of safeguarding children from harm and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Managers support and manage staff effectively through individual supervision meetings which helps to identify staff training needs. Daily staff meetings ensure all staff are aware of children's ongoing individual needs. As a result, staff are able to adapt quickly to any changes in children's care and learning needs. The managers continually evaluate practice and set targets for improvement. This maintains the quality of practice and children's learning experiences effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY348777
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	835230
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Chalk Village Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2011
Telephone number	01474 325166/07803 861 891

Chalk Village Pre-School has been operating for over 30 years and registered in its current premises in 2007. It is situated in the village of Chalk, Gravesend, Kent. The pre-school is open during term time only and offers morning sessions, Monday to Friday from 9am to 12 noon. On Wednesdays an afternoon session is available from 12.30pm to 3pm for children due to start primary school at the next intake. The pre-school receives funding for free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs eight members of staff, of these, six are qualified to level 3.

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