

Challock Pre-School Playgroup

Challock Memorial Hall,, Blind Lane, Challock, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4AU



Inspection date

13 March 2015

Previous inspection date

4 May 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		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

- Staff provide a wide range of stimulating and challenging activities, both inside and out. As a result, children are highly engaged in purposeful play and learning.
- All children make good progress through the developmental milestones. This is due to staff responding effectively to children's changing interests to create meaningful learning experiences.
- Children benefit from good opportunities for interactions with staff. This means that children explore their own ideas and develop their own critical thinking skills in readiness for school.
- Children's welfare is a top priority. The staff have effective systems to identify risks and keep children safe from harm.
- Strong partnerships between parents and staff ensure that parents are actively involved in their child's development. They work closely with their child's key-person to support children's individual needs and progress.
- The manager demonstrates rigorous leadership skills and an uncompromising commitment to development of the setting and the staff. This is having a positive effect on outcomes and learning for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use displays to their full potential to celebrate the work of the children who attend the pre-school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance visual displays to enable children to see their artwork valued and celebrate their achievements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities in the pre-school and the outside area.
- The inspector had discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.

Inspector

Anna Kersley

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their strong knowledge and experience of how children learn to provide a good range of high quality learning activities. They have high expectations of children's abilities and consistently challenge children to develop their skills. For example, children take turns to talk about 'Mother's Day' and then listen to each other talk about special toys from home. This routine helps children develop speaking and listening skills ready for when they start school. Children initiate many activities and are supported by staff who deploy themselves well to meet children's changing interests and needs. This creates opportunities for staff to encourage children to develop essential skills for future learning such as asking questions and problem solving. Staff continue this enthusiasm for critical thinking in the outdoor environment where children enjoy hands-on experiences such as climbing, digging in mud and planting their own seeds. Parents are kept informed of these experiences through daily diaries and detailed learning records.

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

The environment is bright and welcoming with displays that support learning such as numbers, letters, colours and multi-cultural pictures. However, displays do not include photographs of children and there are few examples of the children's work. Staff use language effectively to encourage respectful relationships through the promotion of good manners and turn-taking. Children use these skills at snack time. They learn to become independent as they pour their own drinks from jugs. Staff continue to encourage children's self-care skills as they learn to put on their own coats and are taught how to recognise their own limitations on outdoor equipment. This has a significant impact on children's physical development skills as children are keen to challenge themselves. As a result, they demonstrate good physical skills, such as climbing which are advanced for their age.

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

The manager ensures that all staff have a secure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and safeguarding requirements. Staff contribute to comprehensive records and implement focussed routines to ensure a high quality of teaching. Staff supervision and children's learning journals are detailed, responsive and robust. The comprehensive observation, assessment and planning cycle fully involves parents in children's learning and development and care. The manager uses concise self-evaluation systems to drive forward improvements which also take into account of the views of parents and staff. Therefore, continually developing the educational programmes and raising the quality of teaching which supports positive outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127091
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836203
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Kathleen Stevens
Date of previous inspection	4 May 2011
Telephone number	07740 203924

Challock Pre-School Playgroup opened in 1995. It is located in Challock, Kent. The pre-school is open 9am to 12pm, Monday to Friday during term time. There are three members of staff employed to work with the children, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for three and four year olds.

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