

Seedlings Montessori

227 Poverest Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent, BR5 1RD



Inspection date

19 March 2015

Previous inspection date

1 September 2010

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

- The committee and the manager have robust recruitment procedures and staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures. This helps to ensure the suitability of staff working with the children and keeps them safe from harm.
- All staff are consistent in their approach to behaviour management. Staff set clear boundaries for the children to work within. Given the children's ages and stages of development, they behave well.
- Staff carry out clear assessments of the children's learning and they plan effectively to progress the children's learning and development.
- The management committee alongside the staff are committed to driving continual improvements. They regularly monitor and assess the quality of the activities and teaching that are on offer. They have a good understanding of these and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Children are confident learners and many are working to their learning expectations for their age. The skilled staff are able to extend children's learning so that they make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always organise large group activities to maximise children's learning and development. For example, occasionally the activities are too long and do not always hold all children's attention.
- Staff do not provide real resources, such as fruit and vegetables, to enhance children's learning experiences and imaginations during their role play activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- reorganise large group activities to reduce the time spent waiting and to strengthen opportunities for children to enhance their learning and development
- enhance children's learning through providing real resources during their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main playrooms and the outdoor play area.
- The inspector spoke with the chair of the committee to gather his views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed children's files and observations as well as a selection of policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rebecca Hurst

Inspection findings

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

Children make good progress with their learning and development. The good quality of teaching allows staff to assess children's next steps of learning to progress them further. Staff promote children's language development well. They introduce letter names and sounds to promote children's early literacy skills. The children are also skilled in spelling out and writing their names. Staff enhance children's mathematical skills effectively. They use resources, such as beads, effectively to teach children how to add and subtract, and promote their interest in early mathematics. Children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the magnets, looking to see which ones stuck to the metal table legs and which ones did not. This enables children to develop a good understanding of how things work.

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

Key persons work closely with parents to promote children's well-being. As a result, children are happy and settled in the pre-school. Staff nurture children's independence skills especially well. Children are skilled in finding their names to self-register. This allows the staff to see who still requires a snack. This helps to prepare children for the next stage in their learning and starting school and it also promotes children's early literacy skills. Children then find their own lunch boxes and settle down. Staff sit with the children and talk to them about healthy eating and what they have to eat. This enhances children's health and well-being effectively. Staff teach children about healthy lifestyles, for example, the importance of hand washing. This allows children to follow good hygiene routines to limit the spread of infection. Children have a good amount of resources to promote various areas of learning.

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

The manager gathers views from the parents to target areas for further development effectively. For example, they have recently changed how staff carry out snack time. The manager and one of the committee members review planning, to enable them to make sure activities meet the children's individual needs. Regular staff supervision and appraisals allow the manager to assess the quality of work the staff provide. The manager makes sure that staff training meets the needs of the children, so that staff can use their new knowledge to promote the children's learning and development. Staff work closely with other professionals involved in children's development, including local teachers, to provide continuity of care and prepare children for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY235081
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	832853
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Christ Lutheran Church Committee
Date of previous inspection	1 September 2010
Telephone number	01689 608512 822340

Seedlings Montessori registered in 2002. The pre-school is owned by the church and run by a management committee, which includes the Pastor and church elders. It is situated in Petts Wood in the London Borough of Bromley. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9.30am to 1pm for 38 weeks of the year. The pre-school employs eight staff. Six of the staff hold an appropriate early years qualifications which includes the Montessori International Diploma and National Vocational Qualification Level 2 or 3. Staff use Montessori teaching methods.

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