

Sandhurst Nursery School

Sandhurst Cp School, Rye Road, Sandhurst, CRANBROOK, Kent, TN18 5JE



Inspection date

23 March 2015

Previous inspection date

23 September 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		Requires improvement	3
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 designated person for safeguarding was not aware of the correct process to follow if someone makes an allegation against a member of staff.
- The provider has not kept Ofsted informed of all committee member changes or provided relevant details for Ofsted to confirm the suitability of individual members. This is an offence and breaches a requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register.
- Staff provide resources for children to practise their early writing skills. However, they do not consistently encourage them to use these in different activities, particularly outside.
- The staff are not fully supporting children to understand diversity and to value and respect people's different backgrounds and cultures.

It has the following strengths

- Staff effectively encourage children's learning about letter sounds and mathematics as they play.
- Children settle quickly and relate well to the staff, who positively support their emotional well-being.
- The management promotes staff's professional development with supervision meetings, and encourages them to attend training or improve their qualification. This helps staff understand more about how children learn so that they can support them in making good progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure the designated member of staff for safeguarding has a secure awareness about the procedure to follow if allegations are made against a member of staff
- provide Ofsted with the information needed to determine the suitability of all committee members

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

- encourage children to make more use of the writing resources, particularly when outside
- strengthen children's awareness and understanding about differences between people.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- inform Ofsted of the following: the name, date of birth, address and telephone number for all committee members (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector held meetings with the main trustee of the committee and the manager.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector observed children, looked at some records including children's learning assessments, and spoke to staff.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, ongoing professional development and self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Sue Taylor

Inspection findings

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

Staff engage well with parents and share details about children's learning and development. They encourage parents to support children's next development steps at home to assist their progress. Children are confident communicators and staff help them to talk about their thoughts and ideas. There are various mark-making materials that are easily available. However, staff do not routinely encourage children to use these to practise their early writing skills. Children enthusiastically make their own play choices as staff store resources at low level. Children know they can take resources outside if they wish. Staff observe and assess children's learning well, planning clear individual next learning steps to help move them on. The manager regularly monitors the learning records to ensure staff continuously help all children to make good progress.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

In general, staff practices help keep children safe, however, the weakness in child protection knowledge affects children's well-being. Staff act as good role models and children behave well, willingly sharing resources and taking turns. Children go to the toilet when they need and pour drinks at snack time. This promotes their independence, which helps prepare them for school. Children confidently choose to play indoors or outside for most of the day. They enjoy physical play in the fresh air and the grass area provides good space for more energetic exercise. Children use their creative ideas during art and craft activities and staff value their work by displaying the results. However, staff do not effectively reflect diversity in the environment and resources, to help children learn about peoples' differences.

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

The provider has not effectively met all of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. The provider has not correctly informed Ofsted of the changes to committee members. As a result, Ofsted are unable to determine their suitability. The manager, who has responsibility for safeguarding, is aware of possible child protection concerns. However, she does not know the correct action to take if there are allegations against a member of staff. The manager and deputy regularly observe staff and give feedback to improve practice. Staff work closely with parents, and other professionals when necessary, to ensure children receive the care and support they need. The management team values the views of staff and others as they evaluate the nursery and decide improvements. For example, there are plans to develop the grassed garden area further to meet children's learning needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY331714
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	828179
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	Sandhurst Nursery School Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2011
Telephone number	01580 850407

Sandhurst Nursery School registered in 2010. It operates from a self-contained building on the site of Sandhurst Primary School, Kent, with whom the nursery has good links. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 4.30pm, for 48 weeks of the year. There are seven members of staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3. The manager has a relevant foundation degree. The nursery receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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

