

# Shepherdswell Pre-School

Village Hall, Cox Hill, Shepherdswell, Dover, CT15 7NN



|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b>   | 31 March 2015 |
| Previous inspection date | 22 June 2010  |

| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>                          | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Good</b> | <b>2</b> |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
|  | 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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>                   |                         |             |          |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children enjoy playing in the well-resourced outside area for the majority of the day. Staff ensure children are able to access a wide range of resources and interesting activities in all weathers.
- Staff are deployed effectively inside and outside. This means that they are able to meet children's care and educational needs quickly.
- The manager monitors all planning and next steps very effectively to ensure it is accurate and all children are making good progress. This enables staff to adapt activities to improve children's learning experiences at pre-school.
- Staff benefit from good professional development opportunities which improves their practice. This helps children to make good progress.
- Staff support children to learn about the benefits of healthy eating as they talk to children about making good choices over what foods to eat.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff complete tasks and do not always encourage children to attempt them first. For example, staff cut around objects that children could complete themselves.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for children to fully develop their independence skills, particularly during creative activities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and the children playing inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector sample documentation including children's progress files, policies and procedures and development plans.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children.

### Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

## Inspection findings

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

Children have fun and benefit from good teaching and a wide range of learning experiences. For example, staff read a story to children using props to support their learning and bring their attention to the rhyming words. Staff take children for regular visits to the reception class and join school events to help them become familiar with the school and teachers. This helps children to prepare for their move to school. Staff track children's progress, this enables staff to identify areas for additional support. Therefore, all children are making good progress in their learning and development. Staff work well with parents to share information about their children's learning and provide support for activities at home. For example, children are able to take home bags with resources, such as bath time activities to support communication and interaction at home. However, sometimes, staff complete some tasks for children without letting them try and experience it for themselves. For example, staff use scissors to cut out shapes rather than let children learn to use scissors safely.

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

Staff welcome children into the pre-school, which helps children to settle easily. Staff have good relationships with children and this shows in their levels of confidence. Children behave well and staff use appropriate positive strategies to support them should any difficulties arise. Children enjoy a wide variety of healthy fruit and vegetables for snack. Staff are supporting them their developing awareness of their own health. For example, children discuss eating sweets and understand that sugar affects their teeth. Parents are very pleased with the service that they receive and the experiences provided for their children.

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

The leadership team have a strong understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and implement them effectively throughout the pre-school. Staff receive regular supervisions to extend their good knowledge of safeguarding practices and professional development. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching and outcomes for children. Staff talk enthusiastically about exploring new activity ideas with, and for the children. For example, staff share how they research a variety of messy play opportunities to appeal to children's emerging interests and exploration. Staff work in partnership with other settings children attend and external agencies well to support children.

## Setting details

|                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | 127535                             |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Kent                               |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 836238                             |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Full-time provision                |
| <b>Registration category</b>       | Childcare - Non-Domestic           |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 2 - 5                              |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 26                                 |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 49                                 |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Shepherdswell Pre-School Committee |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 22 June 2010                       |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 01304 830045                       |

Shepherdswell Pre-School opened in 1972. It is run by as a charity and is located in Shepherdswell, near Dover. The pre-school operates from 8.30am to 3pm term time only. There are ten members of staff, all of whom hold early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding to provide early education to children aged two, three and four years old.

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