

Sturry Pre-School

Sturry Primary School, Park View, Sturry, Kent, CT2 0NR



Inspection date	23 April 2015
Previous inspection date	20 May 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff provide excellent high-quality educational experiences, which engage and motivate children as they explore and develop. This is slightly less evident in the promotion of mathematical language to further enhance children's use of measures and quantities. All children make excellent progress in their learning.
- Leadership and management is inspirational. All staff are highly motivated and committed to the improvement of the setting, which effectively enriches and promotes children's learning experiences.
- Staff use exceptionally well developed planning and assessment procedures, which are sharply focused on the individual needs of all children. This enables them to quickly identify any gaps in their learning and to put effective measures in place to promote learning.
- Staff deploy themselves extremely well. They work particularly well together and are exemplary role-models. Children are treated with respect in a nurturing and welcoming environment. This positively supports their emotional well-being.
- The setting works extremely well in partnership with parents who are encouraged to share information on a daily basis. Staff share children's learning folders regularly. This helps keep parents well informed about their children's development. Staff offer parents informative learning workshops, such as internet and e-safety.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's understanding of measures and quantities further by using more mathematical language.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children, during a range of indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector viewed documentation of safeguarding practices, a selection of policies and procedures and children's assessment files.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

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

Staff demonstrate an extremely secure knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. They offer all children an impressive and highly stimulating range of resources, toys and activities to help them progress across all areas of learning. Staff encourage children to be active learners and the outdoor learning area is inspirational. Children experience 'risk and challenge' as they carefully walk, run or jump around the rim of a large tractor tyre. Staff use their expert knowledge of how children learn and develop to skilfully extend children's thinking skills. For example, asking children what will happen if they add more water to their 'mud stew'. Many activities are child initiated and children remain motivated and focused, for long uninterrupted periods. This effectively helps them acquire the key skills required for future learning. Children learn about the world around them as they explore the amazing and innovative 'bug hotel'.

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

Staff support children's emotional well-being exceptionally well. Outstanding procedures are in place to support all children. Staff routinely use the use of signs to ensure children feel secure, safe and included. Children confidently approach staff for cuddles or reassurance. Care practices positively respect younger children's privacy, and older children independently manage their own needs. Children manage their feelings extremely well. Staff remind children of the setting's 'golden rules' to promote positive behaviour. This helps children learn effective boundaries and reminds them of basic safety rules, such as no running indoors. Children learn about e-internet safety and their own safety needs. They know if they have any concerns, they can approach any staff member. Staff have built excellent relationships with the children. Consequently, all children are highly confident, happy and independent learners.

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

The manager and staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. They routinely update their safeguarding and child protection training. This ensures all staff know what to do if they have any concerns. Self-reflection is outstanding, robust and highly effective. The manager takes account of the views of staff, parents and children to help identify areas for improvement. For example, the setting has recently employed an English teacher to further improve children's communication and language skills. Staff have also updated their own English skills. The manager demonstrates a significant commitment to promoting her own and the staff's knowledge. Staff have regular supervision and appraisal sessions and attend frequent training courses. This impacts greatly on the quality of their practice, enriching and enhancing the children's learning experiences. Parents spoken to during the inspection expressed complete satisfaction with the service they receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY216100
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	842516
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	Sturry Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2010
Telephone number	01227 719577

Sturry Pre-School registered in 2002. It operates from a purpose built unit in the grounds of Sturry Church of England Primary School, near Canterbury, Kent. It is open each weekday during term times, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9am to 12pm and 12pm to 3pm, and Wednesday, 9am to 12pm. There are nine members of staff, of whom all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting has achieved the Early Years Kent Quality Mark. The pre-school receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years.

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