

Rainbow Pre - School

Coolings - Green & Pleasant, Main Road, Knockholt, Kent, TN14 7LJ



Inspection date

28 April 2015

Previous inspection date

12 September 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 offer children an exciting range of resources and activities to interest and challenge them. Therefore, children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff ask children skilful questions and introduce new vocabulary during conversations, which supports children's language and communication development.
- Staff observe and assess children's development precisely, in order to plan successfully for their next steps in learning.
- Staff provide children with a good level of support and encouragement to behave well and keep themselves safe.
- Children are happy and confident, and build positive relationships with each other and with staff. This effectively promotes their emotional well-being.
- Staff promote a healthy lifestyle for children with access to a well-resourced outdoor area. They provide and talk about healthy foods with children.
- The manager and staff use self-evaluation successfully and show a strong commitment to continuous development. This ensures good outcomes for children.
- Staff prepare children effectively for their move to school through visits and links with the local schools. This encourages good partnership working.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The craft and early writing area is not sufficiently interesting for children to access independently.
- Staff do not thoroughly promote children's awareness of the daily pre-school routines, to help them understand and support their emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the craft area to make it more appealing for children to access independently
- strengthen all children's understanding of the pre-school routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at some children's records.
- The inspector sampled a range of policy and procedural documents.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy playing with a wide range of activities in a welcoming and stimulating environment. They enjoy using magnifiers to look at patterns and shapes and use a range of tools to explore sand, water and mud. The environment is rich in number and print to promote children's interest in literacy and numeracy. Staff effectively use their knowledge from training to develop mathematical thinking, by introducing the words 'thousand' and 'million'. Staff build on children's interests well. For example, a request for a fishing rod inspires children to use materials to make their own rods. Children take turns in using the computers, which enhances their understanding of technology. Staff develop children's thinking during story time. They ask children to think about what might happen next and encourage them to recall previous experiences.

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

Children help themselves to salad sticks and use knives safely to prepare their fruit at snack time. This encourages children's independence. Children particularly enjoy the large outdoor area that promotes all areas of learning. They enjoy using ribbons to make patterns in the air and use climbing and balancing equipment. Staff support children to land on the mat when jumping off apparatus, this teaches them to manage risks safely. Children enjoy feeding the cockerel and have enjoyed the chicken's eggs at snack time. This, and the planting and growing of vegetables help them to learn about the world around them. Staff are good role models and encourage children to share and take turns, using a sand timer to promote positive behaviour.

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

The staff team use the new process to observe and assess children well. This helps the manager and staff identify any learning gaps and to ensure all children make good progress. Staff have attended training to support and successfully encourage the progress of boys. This led to a recent project on castles, where children enjoyed making shields and armour. Staff work closely with parents and share children's progress with them. This ensures that they involve parents in their children's learning at home. Regular staff meetings, supervision and annual appraisals help staff to update their knowledge and reflect on their practice. This supports positive outcomes for children. All staff have a clear understanding of the child protection procedures. This helps ensure children remain safe. Staff work closely with staff at the local toddler group and primary school. This helps new children settle into the pre-school, as well as to move successfully on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423863
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	838820
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Rainbow Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2011
Telephone number	01959 533934

Rainbow Pre-School registered at the current premises in 2011. The pre-school operates from a purpose-built classroom within the grounds of Coolings - Green and Pleasant garden centre in Knockholt, Kent. The provider employs six members of staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3. The pre-school is in receipt of early years education funding for three- and four-year-old children and is registered to claim funding for two-year-olds.

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