

Phoenix Education Day Nursery



H.E Services, Whitewall Road, Medway City Estate, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4DZ

Inspection date	30 April 2015
Previous inspection date	26 January 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 provide a wide range of resources and experiences to inspire and interest the children. Therefore, children are motivated to learn.
- Staff monitor and assess children's progress accurately in order to plan and provide further activities to extend their development effectively. Therefore, children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Staff teach children about a healthy lifestyle by providing them with a variety of healthy meals and snacks.
- Staff work closely with parents to ensure that children are happy and settled at nursery.
- The management team works closely together and is committed to continually enhancing the provision to ensure positive outcomes for children.
- Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow to protect children from harm.
- Staff work closely with local class teachers in order to prepare children successfully for their move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always organise the daily routine, space and activities effectively for two-year-old children. Consequently, children do not always have opportunities to fully develop their curiosity and explore activities that challenge them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of the daily routine, space and activities to provide challenging experiences to fully promote younger children's curiosity and exploration further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interacting with children, inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's records, regulatory documentation, staff suitability records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke with parents to gain their views.
- The inspector had a discussion with the management team.

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 select from a range of interesting resources which promote learning and investigation. For example, the younger children use their hands to investigate sawdust and enjoy playing in the rattan tent. Older children develop their role play in the mud kitchen. They negotiate with one another successfully to retrieve bean bags from the roof. This, and effective questioning by staff, helps children to play and think creatively. Staff support children's individual needs well. They use the sensory room and heuristic play area effectively to encourage children to communicate and to build positive relationships. Staff help children to prepare for school by providing local uniforms to try on, and by taking the register at the start of the session. The qualified teacher plans activities to extend children. For example, they learn about weight and volume while playing with wooden blocks in a tray of sand. Staff provide parents with information on their children's development. This helps parents to support their children's learning at home.

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

Staff provide children with regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise. This helps them to understand the importance of an active lifestyle. Key workers build positive relationships with parents and carers who are welcomed into the setting. This helps staff get to know children well and support their emotional well-being, particularly at times of change. Staff encourage children to express their feelings and value what they say. Staff provide parents with verbal feedback about their child's day, and provide a written record of sleep and mealtimes for parents of the younger children. Staff work closely with other professionals to agree developmental targets for individual children. This helps to ensure that all children progress well. Staff are confident with safeguarding procedures and use regular risk assessments to help ensure that children remain safe in the nursery.

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

Self-evaluation is evident and management action identifies areas for development promptly. For example, a review of the baby room led to improvements in staff practice and, as a result, their interactions with the babies. The management team gains feedback from parents to help them monitor and develop the quality of the nursery. They provide regular supervision sessions for all staff and there is an ongoing plan of training to respond to individual staff needs. Management liaises with another setting to share good practice ideas. This helps staff to gain new knowledge and improve their skills for the benefit of children. The managers review the progress of all children to ensure that there are no gaps in their learning and they are all extended to make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY411978
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	838632
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	75
Number of children on roll	149
Name of provider	Phoenix Education Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2011
Telephone number	01634 717151

Phoenix Education Day Nursery registered in 2010 and is situated in Rochester, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday, from 7.30am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery also operates a holiday club. There are 29 staff, of whom one holds Early Years Teacher Status, three hold early years qualifications at level 4, 12 hold qualifications at level 3 and five hold qualifications at level 2. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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