

Discoveries Montessori Nursery School



Brenchley Scout Headquarters, Brenchley Road, Brenchley, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 7NX

Inspection date	21 May 2015
Previous inspection date	14 June 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 have a secure knowledge and understanding of how children learn which enables children to make good progress in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good because staff keep them well informed about their children's development. Therefore, parents are able to support their children's learning at home.
- The manager has good systems to support staff in their professional development and daily practice. Supervision meetings are held regularly which enables staff to identify areas for development and attend relevant training. This helps to continually maintain the good quality of teaching.
- Children have a wide range of resources and activities to choose from, which help to interest, motivate and engage them in their learning.
- Children behave well, because staff support them to learn good social skills. Therefore, children share and take turns in their play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of the outdoor play area and resources to encourage children to take and manage risks in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to learn to take and manage risk during physical play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke at length with the manager.

Inspector

Anna Fisk

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn and provide a wide range of learning opportunities which promote children's learning and development well. Children are able to make choices as to what they want to play with from the wide and varied resources. Staff are always nearby to offer support. However, they recognise the importance of stepping back to allow children to explore their own ideas. As a result, children make good progress and are confident, independent learners. Staff introduce new ideas in children's play. For example, during story time, staff encourage children to explore their knowledge of ducks and why they have webbed feet. Staff have good relationships with parents. They encourage parents to come into the setting and see what children have been doing. This enables parents to further support their children's learning at home.

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

Children have positive relationships with staff and enjoy praise and encouragement as they play. Staff help children to have a good understanding of the differences between themselves and others. Children learn to communicate with others in the nursery who have English as an additional language. As a result, children develop positive attitudes to others that help to prepare them for the move to school. Children are confident speakers and have good relationships with their key person ensuring they are supported as they learn. Children demonstrate a good sense of belonging, which supports their emotional well-being.

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

The manager has a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe. Staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding and understand the procedures to follow should they have concerns about children in their care. Risks are reviewed regularly and checked daily, and the children are involved in the rules of the setting. Self-evaluation works well to monitor the practices and provision, and identify areas for improvement. The manager regularly seeks the views of the parents and takes into account children's views. Effective partnerships with school teachers help to prepare children for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127146
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840618
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	Sandra Elizabeth Fisher
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2011
Telephone number	07971289867

Discoveries Montessori Nursery School registered in 1999. It operates from one large room in a scout hut located in Brenchley, in Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm during school term times. The nursery employs six staff, all of whom have appropriate early year's qualifications. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four. The nursery adopts the Montessori approach.

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