

# Play-A-Way Day Nursery

Oddfellows Hall, 2A Vicarage Road, Gillingham, ME7 5HZ



## Inspection date

2 June 2015

## Previous inspection date

4 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Staff have a good understanding of how children develop and demonstrate effective teaching skills. They provide a range of activities based around precise assessments and children's next steps in learning. As a result, children make good progress.
- Staff are very good role models. They give children clear, positive instructions so that children know what is expected. Consequently, children's behaviour is good.
- Children form warm and trusting relationships with their key person. This helps children to feel safe, secure and settle quickly.
- Staff give high priority to children's safety and welfare. They carefully assess risks to ensure children play in a safe environment.
- The provider regularly reflects on nursery practices to make continuous improvements, taking into account the views of staff, children and parents.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong. Regular sharing of information provides continuity in children's care and learning.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide a wide range of resources that reflect positive images to help children develop their understanding of diversity and other cultures.
- Staff do not consistently encourage children's independence through different activities or routines such as the preparation of snacks.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the range of resources that help children to develop an awareness of diversity and the wider world
- ensure staff use every opportunity to encourage children's independence further.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector held a meeting with the management team and spoke to the staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector observed children's play and the quality of teaching practice.

## Inspector

Nicola Jones

## Inspection findings

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

Children's learning is promoted because staff get to know them well and the quality of teaching is good. Staff identify children's next steps for learning as part of the ongoing assessments. Staff encourage children's creative development and imaginative play well in the toddler and pre-school room. The younger age group enjoy exploring with paint as they use their hands to explore the texture. Older children enjoy exploring a variety of materials as they make modelling dough. Staff use this opportunity to teach children new descriptive words. Children learn good skills for their next stage in learning and the move on to school. They begin to recognise their name on cards at snack time, see print in the environment and enjoy looking at books. This effectively supports their early literacy skills. Staff provide opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills during play, for example, using clipboards around the nursery.

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

Staff promote children's confidence and sense of achievement through constant praise and encouragement. They positively promote children's self-esteem by supporting them in their role as a helper. As a result, children become emotionally ready for moving on to school. Staff encourage children's good social skills in sharing and turn taking. Consequently, children enjoy helping each other, for example, as they build models. Children keep healthy by taking part in daily physical activity, both indoors and on daily outings. Staff introduce children to activities that promote their understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they talk to children about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables. Children learn where food comes from as they plant and grow vegetables.

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

The provider demonstrates a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She carries out effective monitoring of children's development to identify children's progress and help narrow any learning gaps. The well-qualified staff attend training to update their knowledge regularly. Recent training about planning and assessment fully supports children's learning. Managers provide helpful feedback after carrying out observations of staff and this helps to promote positive outcomes for children. Staff attend regular child protection training so they have a good understanding of how to safeguard children. The provider shows a strong drive to improve the quality of provision. She works in close partnership with other professionals to create clear action plans. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have regular supervision meetings to promote their development.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY472431
<b>Local authority</b>	Medway Towns
<b>Inspection number</b>	1015260
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	33
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	80
<b>Name of provider</b>	Play-A-Way Partnership
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 June 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01634851107

Play-A-Way Day Nursery registered in 2013. It is one of two settings owned by Play-A-Way Partnership and operates from a hall in Gillingham, Kent. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6pm each weekday, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery includes a breakfast club and after school club for children aged up to 11 years. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 13 staff members, all of whom have appropriate early years qualifications. In the staff team, 10 staff have level 3 qualifications, the manager has an early years degree and one member of staff has achieved Early Years Professional Status.

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