

Betchworth & Buckland Childrens Nursery

The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ



Inspection date

29 June 2015

Previous inspection date

3 December 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
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		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not use their assessments of children's achievements effectively. They do not always share children's next steps in learning with each other. Consequently, they do not always use what they know to plan and provide challenging activities.
- The leadership and management team does not monitor children's achievements effectively to show individual and groups of children's progress over the year. This means that they do not always act quickly to close any gaps in children's learning.
- The leadership and management team does not regularly share information with parents and other settings that children attend. Therefore, there is an inconsistent approach to promoting children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff effectively help children prepare emotionally for school. For example, children regularly visit the local school to enjoy story times and school productions. This helps to ease the children's move to school successfully.
- Staff provide an attractive outdoor area where children engage in stimulating role play and physical activities. They search for treasure as they climb in areas of different levels and dig in woodland.
- Staff use children's interests to ask questions that require a more detailed answer than 'yes' or 'no'. This encourages children to think, come up with their own ideas and become good communicators.
- The leadership and management team uses effective procedures to manage safeguarding concerns. This helps to keep children safe and protects them from harm.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- improve how the assessments that staff make are used so they effectively plan challenging activities for children's next steps in learning
- monitor children's learning and development to ensure it is thorough enough to identify individual or groups of children that need additional help so any gaps can be closed and learning progressed.

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

- regularly share information about children's achievements with parents and other settings that children attend so there is a consistent approach in promoting children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children and held discussions with staff and children.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation, including a sample of the policies and procedures, evidence of staff suitability and self-evaluation information.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector had a meeting with the manager and ex-manager, who is appointed in a consultancy capacity.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Jacqueline Walter

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. Although the key persons make regular assessments and identify areas for children's development, they do not use these effectively to plan challenging activities. In addition, they do not share what they know about children with other staff. This means staff do not always effectively help children progress because they have little understanding of some children's learning needs. Children enjoy listening to stories and engaging in mathematical songs and action rhymes. This helps to create a love of books and develop their understanding of numbers. Children enjoy using climbing apparatus and balancing equipment. Children grow in confidence as they practise developing their physical skills.

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

The learning environment is very well organised and child-friendly. The staff provide a wide range of stimulating resources with lots of opportunities for children to develop their independence. For example, children move freely between indoors and outdoors and choose their own activities from low-level storage baskets with photographs that display what is inside. Staff give very clear messages that help children gain a good understanding of living a healthy lifestyle. Children enjoy home-grown fruit, such as strawberries. Staff also introduce and encourage children to taste new foods, for example watermelon. This helps them to become aware of the importance of a healthy diet. Staff skilfully help children to keep themselves safe and to manage their behaviour. Staff take time to explain how they expect children to behave. For example, children know that they must hold hands and not overtake the lead adult when on their outings. In addition, children enjoy visits from the community police and begin to understand their role in the community.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The leadership and management team understands and implements all the safeguarding and welfare requirements. They take positive steps to ensure the environment is safe. Leaders and managers carry out appropriate suitability checks, induction and supervision for staff. This helps to ensure that all staff are suitable and understand their roles and responsibilities. Leaders and managers implement appropriate strategies to help identify some weaknesses in practice and set targets for improvement. For example, staff complete recognised childcare qualifications. Consequently, they improve their skills and offer children better quality learning experiences. However, the leadership and management team does not effectively monitor the children's progress. Consequently, they are unable to clearly identify and plan effectively to close any gaps in children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122653
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	825302
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	39
Name of provider	Betchworth & Buckland Childrens Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 December 2008
Telephone number	01737 843610

The Betchworth and Buckland Children's Nursery registered in 1992. The nursery is situated in the grounds of Northdown Primary School in Betchworth, Surrey. It is open during term time only. It operates each weekday from 9.15am to 1.15pm and offers two afternoon sessions each week during the summer term only from 1.15pm to 3.15pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years of age. The provision employs seven members of staff; of these, six hold a recognised childcare qualification.

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