

West Kingsdown Preschool



School lane, West Kingsdown, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 6JN

Inspection date

2 July 2015

Previous inspection date

28 March 2011

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend | | Outstanding | 1 |
| The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children | | Outstanding | 1 |
| The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision | | Outstanding | 1 |
| The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings | | | |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching across the pre-school is outstanding. Staff provide an exciting range of activities and resources both indoors and outdoors. As a result, children are highly motivated and eager to explore.
- Staff are highly skilled in observing and assessing children and planning further activities to challenge them. Staff work closely with parents and keep them informed about their children's progress so that they can support their children at home.
- Children form excellent relationships with staff, their key person and each other. As a result, they are extremely settled and confident.
- The staff team works extremely well together. Staff deployment is very good and they use every opportunity to enrich children's learning.
- Staff are very positive role models and respect what children say. As a result, children's behaviour is excellent and they display high levels of self-esteem.
- The management team works effectively together and shows a strong commitment to staff training and ongoing self-evaluation. This helps to continually raise the quality of teaching and outcomes for children.
- Staff have a very good understanding of child protection issues and are aware of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns regarding children's welfare. Therefore, children remain safe in the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop new ways for promoting mathematical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff interacting in both pre-school sites.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.
- The inspector carried out a joint inspection with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's development folders, policies and procedures.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

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

The highly motivated and enthusiastic staff team engages with children extremely successfully to promote their learning. They provide props to strengthen storytelling and use excellent questioning to extend children's thinking skills. Staff skilfully supported children's ideas for building a carriage for their wooden train. This fully values children's chosen play. Children enjoy a very wide variety of messy play activities that promote early writing skills extremely well. Staff lead structured times for small group times, enabling children to remain extremely focussed. Older children are enthusiastic about learning sounds and letters, which fully promotes their literacy development. Outdoors, children learn about volume as they pour water through tubes and fill and empty containers. Staff use large shaped mats for children to jump and step onto. This promotes their physical development as well as their understanding of shapes. Further opportunities to strengthen children's knowledge of numbers and maths are still in development.

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

Staff place a very high priority on children's emotional well-being. They know the children well and are extremely sensitive to their individual needs and interests. Children have their own named trays for their special toys and artwork, which gives them a strong sense of belonging. Staff provide children with a variety of snacks to teach them about a healthy lifestyle. Children pour their own drinks and manage their own toileting, which encourages their independence. The high staff ratio and spacious play area ensure that staff are able to follow children's interests and extend their learning. Staff work exceptionally well with other professionals to plan developmental targets for individual children. As a result, all children make excellent progress in their learning and development.

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

The management, staff and committee work very closely together and have strong links with the local community. Staff meet with local teachers and invite them to visit children at the setting. This helps to prepare children for their move to school very well. There is an extremely thorough risk assessment in place which, along with regular evacuation practises, helps to keep children safe in the setting. The manager carries out regular observations on staff and uses termly supervision sessions to identify any training needs. This helps staff to contribute effectively to the ongoing development plans for the setting. For example, recent staff training on the use of signing supports children with their communication development extremely effectively. The management team tracks children's development to identify any gaps in learning. This ensures that the setting continues to provide a very high-quality learning environment for all children.

Setting details

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unique reference number | 127761 |
| Local authority | Kent |
| Inspection number | 840711 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 66 |
| Number of children on roll | 75 |
| Name of provider | West Kingsdown Pre School Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 28 March 2011 |
| Telephone number | 01474 854897 |

West Kingsdown Preschool opened in 1965 and is situated in West Kingsdown, Kent. It is managed by a committee. The pre-school operates from two rooms in the pre-school building and also from the old school hall. The pre-school is open for five days a week from 9am until 3pm during term time only. The pre-school employs 15 members of staff, 12 of whom hold recognised early years qualifications. The pre-school accepts funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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