

Barham Pre-School

c/o Barham Primary School, Valley Road, Barham, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 6NX



Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

29 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

- Staff have outstanding procedures in place which prepare children exceptionally well for changes in their lives, such as moving to school. This fully supports all children's personal, social and emotional needs.
- Children experience an inspiring and colourful outdoor learning environment, which enables children to use different resources as they explore. Children enjoy planting vibrant colours of flowers and herbs, and proudly water them to help them grow. This promotes their self-esteem exceptionally well.
- The pre-school environment offers children an excellent range of high quality resources and toys, which covers all areas of learning. However, staff do not always challenge children's understanding of weights and measurement. Nonetheless, all children make excellent progress in their learning.
- Leadership and management is excellent. Staff work particularly well together and are exemplary role models. Consequently, children work cooperatively and harmoniously together.
- Staff frequently attend training courses and are highly motivated and committed to improving the setting. This effectively enhances and promotes children's learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further children's mathematical understanding of weights and measurement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views along with completed questionnaire responses.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times, throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a selection of policies and procedures, safeguarding practices and children's assessment files.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children during a range of indoor and outdoor activities.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with highly effective opportunities to develop their imagination and creative skills. Teaching is extremely focused on children's individual needs and abilities. Staff have an excellent understanding of the learning and development requirements. They attended training to specifically help develop children's speech and consistently extend children's thinking and communication. Children are extremely active learners and staff consistently provide activities that enable children to experience risk and challenge. For example, children confidently enjoy using the different sizes of wooden climbing equipment. Many activities are chosen by children who remain motivated and focused for long periods of time. For example, they repeatedly return to the 'light table' to make different butterfly patterns.

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

Outstanding procedures are in place to support all children's developmental needs. Staff build excellent relationships with children which support their social and emotional well-being exceptionally well. Children develop extremely close bonds and loving friendships with staff and with each other. They confidently approach staff for cuddles. Excellent care routines fully support individual children's needs. Children develop very good safety awareness because staff plan regular evacuation practises. Staff follow excellent procedures that encourage children to eat healthily. For example, a snack trolley where children can independently select their own choice of fruit. This supports their independence and confidence. Children enjoy playing outside in all weathers, where they engage in exciting play while they explore. They know to wear waterproof suits and wellington boots on rainy days.

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

The manager has regular supervision meetings with staff. She encourages staff to do training or further qualifications to improve their understanding of how children learn. The manager completed an early years degree since the last inspection to improve her knowledge. As a result, staff provide children with an excellent standard of teaching and care. The manager and staff have an exceptionally strong understanding of possible child protection concerns and safeguarding procedures. Self-reflection is outstanding and highly effective as it incorporates the views of staff, parents and children. The manager sets challenging targets to extend children's learning experiences. Children's learning assessments and planning are excellent. Regular monitoring ensures staff quickly address any gaps in children's learning, which helps them make rapid progress. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are excellent to ensure consistency of care for all children.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Unique reference number | 127001 |
| Local authority | Kent |
| Inspection number | 840595 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 20 |
| Number of children on roll | 40 |
| Name of provider | Barham Pre-School Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 29 March 2011 |
| Telephone number | 07941 829647 |

Barham Pre-School registered in 1994. It is situated in the grounds of Barham Primary School in Barham, Kent. It is open each weekday during term times only on Mondays to Wednesdays from 9am until 3pm and on Thursdays and Fridays from 9am to 12 noon. There are eight members of staff; of whom, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager has Early Years Professional Status. The pre-school receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years old.

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