

Bright Beginnings

North West Kent College, Oakfield Lane, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2JT



Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

17 November 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

- Managers and staff have a good understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. All staff's suitability is checked before working with children. Managers and staff know exactly what to do should they have concerns about a child's welfare.
- Managers and staff have a good understanding of how to meet the learning and development requirements. Staff plan activities to build on children's next steps in learning which they base on their most recent achievements. This means that children make good progress.
- Children's well-being is very strongly supported. Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment and work closely with families to help children feel confident and secure. This promotes children's emotional development very well.
- Parents are well-informed about children's activities each day and staff regularly share information about children's progress with them. Parents comment on how well-prepared their children are for moving on to school and how happy the children are to attend.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently include children's current interests in their activity plans to widen children's learning experiences further.
- Staff do not always share ideas with parents to help promote children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the use of children's interests to plan further challenging play activities linked to these
- enhance parents' further involvement in their children's learning through ideas for activities that can be done at home to support children's next steps in learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play in all areas of the nursery.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation, including children's records.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views.

Inspector

Susan McCourt

Inspection findings

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

Staff work closely with parents to identify children's next steps in learning shortly after children start in the nursery. This means that staff plan interesting and engaging activities which immediately promote children's learning and development. Staff provide structured activities for children along with play that they choose freely. For example, children decide how they want to use different messy materials in the outdoor play areas and staff join in to extend their ideas. Children are enthusiastic participants at group activities, such as singing. Babies freely explore and staff are skilled at recognising what young children are focusing on, and talk or play with them in the same way. Toddlers enjoy investigating how pasta, raisins and cereals mix and pour, and older children use similar skills in mixing sand, soil and water. Staff skilfully judge when to join in with comments and questions, which help children gain mature communication skills.

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

Staff create effective learning environments with plenty of space and good quality equipment. As a result, children develop a strong sense of curiosity and are motivated to play and learn. Staff are very attentive to children's individual care needs. Babies and young children sleep and rest according to their home routines, and staff create cosy areas for older children indoors and outdoors. Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks, and learn about where their food comes. As a result, children benefit from good levels of care for their physical care and development. Children are well-behaved. Staff are clear and consistent about their expectations, so children know how to take turns and share. Children are confident and show mature skills in explaining what they are trying to achieve and they work well together on their ideas. Staff expertly re-direct unwanted behaviour so that children play well. This helps children gain good skills for their future learning.

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

Managers have a well-established system for monitoring the nursery and set clear action plans to make improvements that benefit children. Staff benefit from regular training and managers encourage staff to make changes that build on their new learning. For example, staff made improvements to the outside play area following training about boys and learning outdoors. Staff benefit from frequent supervision and appraisals because managers promote their continuous professional development effectively. Managers reflect strongly on practice and take swift action where staff identify new ideas so that there is effective continuous improvement. Managers and staff have strong partnerships with other day care settings and schools. This provides children with good consistent support for their care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270365
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	987794
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	110
Name of provider	North West Kent College Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2011
Telephone number	01322 629443

Bright Beginnings opened in 2003. It is on the Dartford campus of North West Kent College in Kent. It opens from 8am to 6pm, all year round, except for one week at Christmas and bank holidays. The nursery receives funding to provide nursery education for children aged two, three and four years old. The nursery employs 18 staff; of whom, 17 have relevant childcare qualifications, including two staff with Early Years Professional Status.

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