

Canterbury House Nursery

59-61 Canterbury Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent, TN24 0BH



Inspection date

24 July 2015

Previous inspection date

16 September 2010

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

- The staff maintain good relationships with the children. They meet children's individual needs well and effectively support their well-being. Children are confident and happy to learn as a result.
- Staff establish good partnerships with parents. They meet regularly with them to ensure that they feel fully included and informed about their children's learning and development.
- The staff team has a good knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures. The staff are knowledgeable and understand how to protect children's welfare and help keep them safe.
- The staff encourage all children to develop future life skills. Consequently, children develop good social and independence skills, which prepare them well for school.
- The management team is dedicated to making continuous improvements. It uses a variety of effective ways to effectively evaluate practice. Staff show commitment to providing high-quality learning opportunities for the children.
- Staff use effective strategies to successfully support children who learn English as an additional language, and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps all children to make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make all areas of the indoor environment inviting and stimulating for children.
- Staff do not always manage changes of activities during the day well. Sometimes children have to wait too long and this means they are not fully engaged during these times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the indoor environment to make it more inviting and stimulating for children
- improve the management of changes in routine to ensure all children are fully engaged during these times.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the nursery that children use.
- The inspector observed staff interacting with the children.
- The inspector sampled written documentation, including children's progress reports, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff, gathered parents' views and considered these.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a good variety of engaging activities to promote children's learning and development, particularly in the outdoors. Children confidently choose activities to take part in. Staff join in children's play to extend their learning well. For example, during craft activities children act out their first hand-experiences and staff join in by linking these to the real world. This extends children's ideas. Staff use a variety of techniques to develop children's communication, speaking and listening skills. For example, they use thought-provoking questions to encourage and challenge children's thinking and to help them solve problems. Staff engage parents in their children's learning. For example, they encourage them to contribute to their children's progress records and attend events and parent evenings. Parents speak highly of the communication with the staff and how they offer consistent care. Parents are fully involved in, and informed of, children's learning and development.

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

Staff maintain good relationships with children because they know and respond to their individual needs. Consequently, children arrive happily and confidently settle. Staff support children to develop good physical skills that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. For example, children negotiate space, develop their coordination and confidently climb and balance. Children are learning to have a sense of empathy towards others and kindly offer words of encouragement. Staff talk to children about the importance of caring for others and other living things. For example, children care for and feed their pet rabbits. Staff communicate well with schools and other professionals to fully support all children and meet their individual needs.

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

Management effectively monitor and review the setting on a regular basis. They ensure staff complete assessments so the nursery is safe and secure. Management make positive changes to improve the quality of teaching for children. For example, staff attend regular training and meetings and implement what they have learnt. This has a positive impact on the learning experiences for all children. For example, staff have started using signing as a result of recent training to communicate effectively with and support all children's language skills. Management follow robust procedures to ensure the suitability of all staff. They support staff's professional development well. Management accurately monitor all children's progress, including those with additional needs, to ensure any gaps in children's development are closing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277334
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	837391
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	57
Name of provider	Janet Sheriff
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2010
Telephone number	01233 642497

Canterbury House Nursery School is a privately-owned nursery which opened in 2003. It operates from three rooms in purpose-built premises in Ashford, Kent. The nursery opens from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four. There are seven staff employed to work with the children, of whom five hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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