

Poppies Pre-School

Emmanuel Church, Silverweed Road, Chatham, Kent, ME5 0UD



Inspection date	15 September 2015
Previous inspection date	19 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children enjoy playing with a wide range of resources which interest them. They are motivated to learn and make good progress in their learning.
- Parents and carers are positive about the staff and pre-school. They report that staff help children to settle according to their individual needs, and keep parents informed of their progress. This helps to promote continuity of care for the children.
- Staff have a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and are enthusiastic about developing their practice further. They work well as a team and take part in training sessions to increase their knowledge. This helps to continually improve the teaching and learning outcomes for children.
- Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they have a healthy diet at snack time and regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise.
- Staff deployment is good and regular risk assessments minimise the risk of accidents. This helps to safeguard children's safety and welfare.
- Children's key workers observe and monitor their development successfully in order to plan further challenging activities to move children forward in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always effectively plan the routine for the short group-time. For example, this occasionally results in children sitting for long periods of time and sometimes they lose interest in the activity.
- Staff have not fully considered how to develop the environment further to provide areas for children to relax in or to look at books quietly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- revise the organisation of short group-times to strengthen children's concentration and maintain their interest
- strengthen children's interest in books and stories and enable them to have quiet areas within the environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's and staff's interactions indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager to discuss leadership and management.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policy documents and children's progress records.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff have made significant developments to the pre-school since the last inspection and demonstrate a good commitment to continuous improvement. For example, the well-qualified manager works closely with the local authority to identify weaknesses and has an ongoing improvement plan. The manager uses supervision sessions to discuss children's progress and to identify staff training needs. This helps staff to update their knowledge and skills in order to deliver good quality teaching. For example, staff training on outdoor play has enabled the staff to develop the outside learning resources. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are familiar with updates to legislation and ongoing observation is embedded into daily practice. Staff know the procedure to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. This helps to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Staff develop children's language well; for example, they give clear explanations to children and ask questions to promote their thinking skills. Staff have a good understanding of when to assist children and when to allow them to lead the play. Consequently, this helps children to engage and concentrate well at activities of their choosing. Staff provide many opportunities for children to explore their creativity and mathematical skills. For example, children learn about numbers as they persist in hooking a duck from the water, and about length and measurement during floor activities. They also play independently with the kitchen, using their imaginations, and explore sand and soil.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The staff team members work well together, good role models and help children to learn to take turns and to value each other. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs and backgrounds, and work closely with parents to support settling-in and ongoing development. Staff promote children's self-esteem and strengthen their sense of belonging and well-being. For example, they give children regular praise and encouragement. Children behave well; they have good relationships with each other and quickly learn the expected boundaries within the setting. Staff support consistency in all children's learning; for example, they have positive links with other agencies and professionals locally.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are happy and confident in the setting, and make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children learn successfully to be independent, which helps to prepare them for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY292576
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	993196
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Rita Ann Cooper
Date of previous inspection	19 September 2014
Telephone number	07788 555855

Poppies Pre-School registered in 2004 and is located in Chatham, Kent. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting opens Monday to Friday during school term time, from 9am to 12 noon. The setting receives government funding for free nursery education for children aged two, three and four years.

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