

ABC Preschool (Swalecliffe)

Swalecliffe Community Primary School, Bridgefield Road, Swalecliffe, Whitstable,
Kent, CT5 2PH



Inspection date	8 October 2015
Previous inspection date	20 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Leadership and management is inspirational. Leaders have high expectations for themselves and staff in meeting children's individual needs and sustain a very high standard. They rigorously monitor staff practice to ensure excellence.
- Staff are highly skilled at focusing on children's play ideas and helping children to learn key skills as they play and have fun. This helps children to make rapid progress.
- Children show great independence as they explore the stimulating learning environment that staff have created, both indoors and outside. As result, children are highly motivated to play and learn.
- Different groups of children, such as those learning English as an additional language, make rapid progress in gaining new skills.
- Staff are excellent role models for children. They show children how to be thoughtful and polite because they treat everyone in the setting with great consideration. Staff extend this to the local community by involving children in fundraising for local and national charities
- Children enjoy taking turns to sit on a children's committee where they can make decisions about planning or ideas for charity fundraising. This gives children experience of sharing views and making group decisions, and shows them how much they are valued in this setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend further the opportunities for children to develop their ability to analyse and solve problems.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Susan McCourt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a detailed and up-to date understanding of how to protect children and know exactly what to do should they have concerns about the welfare of a child. Staff benefit from a wide range of training opportunities, such as courses or learning from senior staff. Staff share their training with colleagues. For example, staff who learn about particular additional needs pass on information so that children have highly consistent care. Leaders and managers use a wide range of effective methods to analyse children's progress accurately and identify any areas for improvement. This means they are able to take well-targeted action to improve planning, resources and staff skills, and sustain an extremely high standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have excellent teaching skills. For example, they set up really interesting activities that children can explore and investigate at their own pace. Children relish opportunities to set their own challenges, such as constructing steps to their tower or mixing the right shade of paint. They learn to make decisions about how to achieve their goals with skilled support from staff. However, occasionally, children have fewer opportunities to fully explore problem-solving and to stretch their thinking skills. Parents are highly appreciative of their partnership with staff. Parents tell staff about activities and learning that has happened at home and staff use this information in their planning and assessment. This means that staff have a very accurate knowledge of children's skills and achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff make excellent use of home visits to start getting to know the children and their families, and then spend lots of time playing together with them in the setting in the first few weeks. As a result, children build extremely strong attachments to their key person and other staff, which promotes their emotional development. Staff take very special care to meet children's individual needs. They take time to teach children the skills they need to take care of their personal hygiene, to enjoy healthy eating and develop their physical skills. This means that children have excellent opportunities for their physical care and development. Children also gain exemplary skills in managing their feelings and behaviour. Staff are excellent role models and children learn to value and respect themselves and others, and grow in confidence.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress across all areas of learning, building on their strengths and making rapid progress when gaining new skills. For example, younger children quickly achieve excellent social and communication skills. Older children build on their already first-rate mathematical abilities and imaginative play ideas. Overall, children acquire excellent skills to help them in their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396741
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	822467
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	72
Name of provider	Michelle Bush & Rachel Shulver Partnership
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2011
Telephone number	07990894442

ABC Preschool at Swalecliffe registered in 2009 in Swalecliffe, in Whitstable, Kent. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.50am to 3pm for 38 weeks of the year. They receive funding for free early education sessions for children aged two, three and four years of age. The pre-school employs 10 staff, eight of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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