

# Plaxtol Nursery School

Memorial Hall, School Lane, Plaxtol, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0QD



## Inspection date

16 October 2015

Previous inspection date

22 September 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- The management team shows exceptional dedication and commitment to maintaining the highest levels of teaching and care. Excellent evaluation and monitoring of staff, children's progress and the environment drive continual improvement. Children flourish in a safe, stimulating and enjoyable environment that is nurturing, while staff offer excellent challenge through well-planned activities.
- Staff put children's safety at the heart of their practice through an excellent and thorough understanding of safeguarding procedures. For example, they have an extensive knowledge of how to identify potential child protection concerns.
- Children demonstrate exceptionally positive behaviour and respect for one another, the staff and the environment. They are highly confident and keen to try new things, motivated, curious and independent. They have an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe.
- Staff have an extensive knowledge of the children. They are highly effective at planning stimulating and inspirational activities to support them to make excellent progress across all areas of their learning and development.
- Staff quickly address any gaps in children's achievements by providing excellent targeted support. As a result, all children achieve very high outcomes in preparation for school.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on opportunities for children to use their own ideas during creative activities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with parents and looked at parent questionnaires to take their views into account.
- The inspector observed children playing and interacting with all staff, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and completed a joint observation.
- The inspector checked some documents, including those for self-evaluation, safeguarding, recruitment, ongoing professional development and attendance.
- The inspector spoke to children's key persons and sampled some records, such as learning assessments.

### Inspector

Alison Martin

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

Through rigorous self-evaluation, staff meetings and supervision, the management team identifies improvements. This continually supports the well-qualified staff as they raise standards for children's welfare and learning. For example, staff training resulted in considerable improvements to children's enjoyment when using technology resources. Safeguarding is effective. High quality care and up-to-date staff training help keep children safe. For example, the manager provides parents with information and children's books about internet safety. The manager has highly significant links with other settings and shares best practice examples with parents and staff. The partnership with parents is outstanding, right from the thorough induction into the nursery. The monitoring and sharing of children's progress and preparation for the move to school is excellent.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

Staff skilfully observe children to provide activities that are highly stimulating and enjoyable. Regular assessments accurately identify what children can do and differences in the way they learn. Excellent teaching and high expectations ensure staff challenge and motivate children. For example, staff promote children's physical skills with an inspirational programme of music and movement. Staff skilfully engage children in conversations, as an example of how they extend children's thinking skills and vocabulary. Exciting daily experiences include opportunities to practise early writing and to develop mathematical skills, such as describing shapes. Children excitedly explore an abundant range of materials during creative activities. However, very occasionally staff do not always encourage children to make the best use of their imaginative ideas.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Children form particularly close relationships with their key-persons who are excellent at encouraging children to be active and curious learners. For example, children display significantly high levels of involvement in their play. Children's behaviour and manners are exemplary and their excellent emotional well-being enables them to respect and understand others. Their independence is encouraged extremely well and they gain confidence in their own abilities. Staff display exceptionally high standards of care and have a thorough knowledge of children's needs. This provides an excellent basis for children to develop their understanding of how to keep safe and healthy. Children are extremely well-prepared for the next stages in their learning.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

Children make excellent progress from their individual starting points. They are highly motivated and eager to learn. Children with additional learning needs receive expert support and timely interventions so any development gaps close quickly.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY233507
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	826422
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	19
<b>Name of provider</b>	Sarah Jane Elinor Shewell
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	22 September 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	01732 811395

Plaxtol Nursery School is privately owned and registered in 2001. It operates from the village hall in Plaxtol, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 9am to 12 noon, with additional sessions from 12 noon to 3pm on Monday and Friday. A lunch club runs from 12 noon to 1pm on Tuesday and Thursday. The nursery is open during term time only. There are five staff; of these, four have appropriate early years qualifications, including one member of staff who has Early Years Professional Status. The nursery is accredited to receive government funding for free nursery education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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