

Rodmersham PreSchool

Rodmersham Squash Club, Bottles Lane, Rodmersham, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 0PR



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

25 January 2016

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The quality of teaching is variable and staff miss some opportunities to extend children's learning.
- Staff identify next steps for children's development; however, these are not always sufficiently precise or focused across all areas of learning. Staff do not always plan activities that are suitably challenging to help every child make the best possible progress.
- The management team has not fully developed the self-evaluation processes to identify and prioritise areas for improvement.
- Staff do not always promote children's understanding of different cultures, languages and the wider world.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy daily opportunities to be outside. This helps to support their physical well-being as they play in the fresh air and exercise.
- Staff develop positive relationships with parents and keep them well informed about their child's day.
- Children form good relationships with their key person. They feel safe, happy and emotionally secure.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ improve the quality of teaching so that all children benefit from opportunities that challenge and help them to make the best possible progress	20/02/2016
■ improve systems of observation and assessment to identify each child's next steps in all areas of learning and plan learning experiences matched to their individual needs.	20/02/2016

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

- make effective use of self-evaluation to clearly identify areas for improvement which raise outcomes for children
- extend the range of opportunities available to help children learn about different cultures and the wider world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at convenient times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including children's records, policies, procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Nicola Chambers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a clear understanding of child protection issues and are aware of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager and staff provide a safe and secure environment. For example, they carry out thorough daily risk assessments of all areas in the pre-school. Self-evaluation is not fully effective. The manager monitors staff performance and children's progress and has identified some areas for development. However, she has not focussed on supporting and training staff to improve practices that extend children's learning. The manager carries out appropriate recruitment and vetting processes to ensure all staff are suitable.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching varies and staff sometimes miss opportunities to support children's learning fully. Staff make some observations of children's learning while they play; however, planning for individual children is not always effective. Staff do not always use their assessments well to identify children's next learning steps and plan challenging activities that help them make the best possible progress. Children enjoy their time at the pre-school and engage suitably in the activities on offer. For example, they were keen to build with the wooden blocks and talk about the size of the towers they created. Staff promote children's mathematics skills. For example, they encourage children to count and explore shapes, different sizes and colours.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff support children's personal care needs and promote their independence skills, which helps prepare them for the next move in their learning. For example, children confidently learn to use the toilet, wash their hands and put on their coats and shoes. However, staff do not always provide a good range of experiences to promote children's awareness of different cultures and other languages. Children develop positive attitudes and behave well. For example, they are kind, polite and listen well to instructions. Staff supervise children well to keep them safe. Staff sit with children at mealtimes as they enjoy healthy and nutritious food. Information from parents about children's individual dietary requirements helps staff to meet their physical needs.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Overall, children make steady progress. However, they do not always have the support they need to make the best possible improvement in their learning and development. Children learn the basic key skills they need for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479906
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1035907
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	17
Name of provider	Eleanor Rose May
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07722064187

Rodmersham Pre-school registered in 2013 and operates from the Rodmersham Squash Club in Rodmersham, Kent. The pre-school is open each weekday, except for Thursday, from 9am to 3pm, during school term time. There are five members of staff, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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