

Lyminge Pre-School

Lyminge Village Hall, Woodland Road, Lyminge, Folkestone, Kent, CT18 8EW



Inspection date	25 February 2016
Previous inspection date	10 February 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

- The manager and senior management team lead the pre-school with a passion for excellence and continuous improvement. They hold very high aspirations and empower the staff to reach their potential through highly effective coaching, mentoring and professional development. The exceptionally high quality of teaching enables all children to make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Support for children who have special educational needs is excellent. Staff are dedicated and professional in their work with parents and with other professionals involved in children's individual support arrangements. Early and coordinated support ensures that children make the best possible progress.
- Staff provide children with an extremely stimulating environment. They support children's learning exceptionally well, helping them to explore an extensive range of resources indoors and to develop their skills further in the extensive outdoor space.
- The highly qualified and experienced staff are extremely skilful in using precise observations and assessments of what children know and can do to plan activities that motivate children and challenge them to take the next step in their learning.
- Parents speak very highly of the relationships that they and their children have with all staff. Parents know exactly how their children are progressing in their learning and what they can do to support their children's future learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the organisation of books displayed in some areas of the pre-school so that they are more easily accessible for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children and the quality of teaching throughout the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke with parents, staff members and children during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the nominated person, the manager and children's key persons.
- The inspector looked at relevant documents, including information for parents, self-evaluation, policies and suitability checks.

Inspector

Bernadette Gibbs

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Strong leadership underpins the excellent teaching and care in the pre-school. A highly effective induction programme supports new staff exceptionally well and establishes high expectations from the start. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibility to protect children from harm. The culture of vigilance includes, for example, a detailed knowledge of online safety and strict monitoring of the use of information technology within the pre-school. Management is extremely knowledgeable about the skills of all staff members. Outcomes of regular one-to-one meetings and the ongoing evaluation of practice are used extremely effectively to support individual professional development and the highly efficient deployment of staff. The manager monitors staff assessments of children's progress meticulously to ensure that any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and addressed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide children with a rich, stimulating and vibrant learning environment indoors, and in the extensive garden area. Books are plentiful in the pre-school, although these are not always readily accessible to children. Staff make skilful use of their observations to help children make links in their learning. For example, when they created a road circuit for riding bikes they found children were unaware of how to use a zebra crossing. They promptly arranged a walk to the High Street to teach children about road safety. Staff are always interested in what children have to say and take every opportunity to extend children's use and understanding of language. For example, staff compared the idea of bread being soft and toast being hard to help a child understand the use of the word 'differentiate'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop extremely secure emotional attachments with their key person, and this supports their very high levels of confidence, self-esteem and independence. Children's behaviour is excellent. They cooperate very well with staff and each other. Staff have great insight and skill to adapt activities and routines to help each child learn to take responsibility for their personal health and safety at a level that matches their stage of development precisely and supports their well-being significantly.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are enthusiastic learners. They are curious, persevere and listen attentively to develop skills that support all aspects of learning. All children, including disabled children, those who have special educational needs, the most able, and those who are learning English as an additional language, are extremely well prepared for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127357
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	825414
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	39
Name of provider	Lyminge Preschool Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2011
Telephone number	01303 863 149

Lyminge Pre-School started in 1969 and was registered in 2001. It is located in Lyminge, near Folkestone, Kent. The pre-school is open from 8am to 5.30pm on Monday to Thursday and from 8am to 3pm on Friday during school terms. The pre-school committee employs 10 staff including an administrator. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications at level 3 and above. The manager holds Early Years Professional Status.

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