

Inspection date

1 April 2016

Previous inspection date

28 May 2015

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 receive consistent and effective support to help them behave well. Staff use agreed strategies to help children understand how to play well and stay safe.
- The management team has a clear vision to develop good outcomes for children. It is aware of the team's strengths and weaknesses, and has effective plans to continue to develop the nursery. It has made clear improvements since the last inspection.
- Staff support children's emotional well-being successfully as they move age groups within the setting and then on to school. For instance, staff follow children's lead and develop flexible plans to support their individual needs and confidence about the move.
- Staff work well with parents and fully involve them in children's learning. For example, parents are actively involved in children's assessments and receive good information about how to further support their learning at home.
- All children make good progress. Staff identify areas in which children require further support and implement effective plans to further their development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always exchange information with other settings that children attend so they can work together to support children's learning more effectively.
- Changeover times and routine activities, such as lunch and outdoor play times, are not organised effectively to support all children. Some end up waiting around, while for others play is sometimes cut short and they are unsure what is happening next.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen relationships with other settings that children attend to ensure children receive continuity in their care and education
- review and improve the organisation of routines so that these more effectively support children's needs when activities change.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector held a joint observation with the owner/manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching inside and outside.
- The inspector viewed documentation and spoke to the management about their risk assessments and safety arrangements.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children where appropriate.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff are clear about child protection procedures and know what to do if they have concerns about children in their care. They effectively manage potential risks and understand how to keep children safe at all times. The management team gives good support for staff to develop their practice. For instance, they attend training and share ideas with the staff team to promote development across the nursery. This includes developing how children choose and access toys more effectively to help them remain interested and engaged in learning. The manager monitors children's progress well and uses the information to support her plans for improvement and to close any gaps in learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff track children's learning accurately, and effectively provide activities and support to challenge them. Children enjoy sharing their play with staff, who support and extend their ideas successfully. For example, staff supported older children well by helping them to work together and learn a new ball game. Staff use children's interests to motivate them. Children learn about nature and the world around them. For instance, they excitedly observed caterpillars and talked about how they will turn into butterflies. Staff promote babies' communication and language well. For example, they enjoy joining in with songs and choose stories to share with their key person.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and settled, and learn to play cooperatively together. For example, they benefit from spending time with children of different ages and having opportunities to be with their siblings during the day. Staff support children to explore their understanding of other people. For instance, they learn that families have different experiences, languages and lifestyles. All children receive good support to learn about their personal hygiene and care needs. For example, staff support babies to wash their hands with running water before meals. Staff work hard to give children a good variety of daily learning opportunities, outside as well as inside. For instance, they go on a variety of regular walks in the community and use their outside space well.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those with special educational needs and those who are learning English as an additional language, achieve well. Children are confident speakers. They are motivated and keen to explore early writing skills. They talk about the marks they make with water and brushes outside. Older children are independent, and make choices from the good range of resources and activities in the well-organised play spaces. Children learn valuable skills for future learning and in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY474410
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1016458
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Sarah Marie Kingsman
Date of previous inspection	28 May 2015
Telephone number	07956057323, 07415580257

Seashells registered in 2014 and operates in New Romney, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round, except for bank holidays. There are eight members of staff, including one administrator; of these, one member of staff holds an early years qualification at level 4 and five hold qualifications at levels 2 and 3. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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