Honey Pot Nursery

The Early Years Centre, Dover Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 1QF



Inspection date	11 April 2016
Previous inspection date	16 March 2012

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a well-resourced, welcoming environment for children. The children have easy access to a wide range of toys inside and outside, which support them to make informed choices in their play.
- Parents are fully involved in their children's learning. Staff share information regarding children's progress and next steps in learning, offering suggestions for parents to support children's learning at home.
- The management and staff team have a secure understanding of how to maintain children's safety. For example, staff use the password system effectively to ensure children are only released to an authorised adult.
- Secure settling-in procedures help children to form strong attachments. This ensures staff meet children's individual care needs so they are ready to learn.
- Staff use effective methods to fully support children who speak English as an additional language and those who require additional support. This enables all children to make good progress from their initial starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not take every opportunity to extend older children's vocabulary through the use of skilful questioning.
- Children are not always given opportunities to extend their mathematical knowledge and understanding, for example learning to compare quantity and size.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for older children to further extend their language development
- support staff working with older children to enable them to incorporate mathematical concepts into all daily routines and activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff interactions, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of those parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's development folders, and safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke with the management about its evaluation of the nursery.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management is committed to providing a high-quality service for children and their families. It constantly evaluates the service it provides and takes into account the views of parents. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have recently undertaken safeguarding training and they are aware of how to follow up any concerns they might have about a child's welfare. Regular team meetings and training events ensure staff constantly update their knowledge and skills. The manager has detailed tracking and monitoring processes in place. This helps staff quickly address any identified gaps in children's progress. The manager makes effective use of additional funding to improve outcomes for all children. Good partnerships with other agencies help children and their families get any extra support they may need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make good use of observations and assessment to plan activities based on the children's interests and next steps in learning. Staff make good use of repetition to support younger children's language and communication development. A wide range of books and signs around the nursery extend children's interest in literacy. Children enjoy engaging in sensory play. For example, they use shaving foam and playdough to explore a variety of textures. Children learn to appreciate the increasingly diverse nature of their nursery. They explore a wide range of different cultures and celebrate various festivals. This helps children learn to respect each other and embrace similarities and differences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Strong relationships help children to form very secure attachments. Staff make effective use of individual timelines to help children settle and learn nursery routines. Children gain good levels of independence; for example, they put on their coats before going outside. Staff teach children how to identify and manage risks for themselves. For example, children think carefully about their own safety as they ride bikes across the play area. Children learn the importance of having a healthy diet and enjoy trying a variety of fruit at snack time. Children's behaviour is good. Staff use clear strategies to help children learn to take turns and share. For instance, children use a sand timer to know when it is their turn on the bike. Staff encourage children to explore their local community, for example, by taking them on walks to the beach.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including disadvantaged children and those who have special educational needs, make good progress. They acquire a wide range of skills in all areas of learning. Children are confident and emotionally well prepared for their next stage in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 151503

Local authority Kent

Inspection number 825990

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 36

Number of children on roll 72

Name of provider Action for Children

Date of previous inspection 16 March 2012

Telephone number 01303 212720

Honey Pot Nursery registered in 2001 and is owned by Action for Children. The nursery operates from The Early Years Centre in Folkestone, Kent. It opens for five days a week from 8am to 6pm, during term time only. The nursery receives funding for pupil premium children and provides free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 10 staff; all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The manager and acting deputy manager have achieved Early Years Professional Status.

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