

Hollingbourne Pre-School Playgroup

Cardwell Pavillion, Greenway Court Road, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent, ME17
1QD



Inspection date	20 April 2016
Previous inspection date	27 April 2012

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 management team supports staff performance excellently. For example, regular coaching sessions and an extremely effective programme for continuous professional development help to maintain highly effective teaching practices.
- Exemplary relationships between staff provide an excellent role model for children's behaviour towards each other. Children show high levels of respect and consideration towards each other.
- Staff's teaching is highly responsive to the children's needs, and it is of a consistently high quality and worthy of dissemination to others. Children consistently make excellent rates of progress in relation to their starting points.
- The highly effective key-person system provides excellent support to children and their parents, and provides them with a consistent and familiar adult they can go to. High priority is given to maintaining the incredibly successful strategies that staff use to engage parents in their children's learning and effectively promote continuity of care.
- Staff place an extremely sharp focus on helping children to develop their social skills, communication and physical development throughout the session.
- Staff provide a highly stimulating environment and a wide range of activities to inspire and motivate children in their learning. Children are eager to join in, and effectively lead their own play and develop their own ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's very good knowledge of healthy lifestyles even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the interactions between staff and children in the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through discussion with them.
- The inspector viewed a range of written documentation, including children's development records and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to staff and managers about different aspects of their roles, including planning and safeguarding.

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager positively motivates her staff team to maintain the highest levels of achievement for the children. She strives for continuous improvement, for example, she reflects with staff on their practice and fully values feedback from parents and children to inform this. The manager very skilfully assesses the progress of groups of children, and monitors staff practice and the environment. For example, after identifying gaps in children's mathematical development, staff have targeted improvements in this area. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep up to date with safeguarding practice and robustly implement their procedures to help keep children safe from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff get to know children extremely well. They carefully and accurately observe and assess children's learning. Staff have high expectations of children and interact exceptionally well with them to strengthen and enhance their abilities and skills. For example, they use games, such as bingo, to enhance children's counting skills, their recognition of double-digit numbers, and their understanding of taking turns, to challenge children further. Staff make excellent use of various programmes that help them to monitor all children's communication skills. Children make rapid progress in their communication skills. Staff appropriately follow children's lead and provide extremely effective and timely interventions to support children's learning and development. Staff and parents work extremely closely, and together they help children learn how to manage their feelings and behaviour and to know what happens next by being made aware of the daily routines.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show respect for each other, are considerate of one another and take turns. They enjoy a highly stimulating environment with exceptional opportunities to develop their imaginative and physical skills. For example, children creatively use a wide variety of tools and resources outside to mix water and dirt to create their 'mud pies'. Staff reinforce children's awareness of healthy lifestyles extremely well overall, although, on occasion, do not take every opportunity during routines to enhance this even further. Staff provide children with an exceptional range of opportunities to increase their awareness of diversity, differences and similarities.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make exceptional progress in relation to their starting points. Children are remarkably confident and enthusiastic learners. They show high levels of security, safety and well-being. Children have control of their own learning. They effectively learn a wide range of skills to be ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127254
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	825405
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Hollingbourne Pre-school Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2012
Telephone number	07864 065753

Hollingbourne Pre-school Playgroup was registered in 1990. It operates from the Lance Memorial Pavillion in Hollingbourne, near Maidstone, Kent. The setting is open each weekday, from 9.10am to 12.10pm, term time only. A lunch club operates on Monday and Thursday. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four staff working with the children, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 and level 4.

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