

Snowflakes Day Nursery

Ashford Road, Chartham, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 7HN



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 May 2016

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 have very good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they enjoy regular opportunities to use a variety of large climbing equipment and to play outside daily.
- Staff support children well to help them settle and enjoy their time at nursery. For instance, they give children photographs of themselves and their friends to comfort them if they are missing them.
- Children are confident and good communicators. They have a good range of vocabulary and are able to effectively explain their needs. Older children are proficient in holding detailed conversations about themselves and their friends.
- Staff monitor children's progress and learning experiences effectively. They know how to plan for individual children's learning needs, including those with special educational needs, and they support children's good progress well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always ensure that group times are a valuable learning opportunity for all children.
- Sometimes, staff do not provide enough opportunities to challenge children further to think for themselves to raise their levels of achievements even more.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of group times to make sure all children's learning is fully promoted
- extend opportunities for children to develop their thinking skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner and manager. She read documentation such as policies and procedures, children's learning records and the self-evaluation form.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that staff can easily access information on who to contact if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager provides effective support for staff to reflect and develop their practice. For example, they have individual development targets to ensure they continually improve outcomes for children. Staff work well together to evaluate their practice. They have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the nursery and consider the views of parents. Staff have positive strategies in place to engage with other professionals who work with children. The management team oversees the tracking of children's learning well. For instance, they put effective support in place to help children make good developments to catch up and refer for additional support were needed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff work well with parents. They discuss children's learning and development to help them further support children's learning at home. Staff help children explore the natural world with interesting and motivating activities. For instance, children can see and talk about the changes to beans as they grow them in see-through pouches. All children enjoy expressing themselves through music. For example, they explore music and song sessions to develop their understanding of rhythm and instruments. Staff provide good support for children who are learning English as an additional language. For example, they take time to learn key words to help children understand and communicate their needs effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to have a good understanding of safety. For instance, they explain to children that they might slip if there is water on the floor. Babies and children enjoy spending time together at periods throughout the day. Children behave well. For example, they know what is expected of them. Staff use good strategies to help them learn to negotiate and take turns. Babies enjoy exploring familiar items. For instance, they have 'all about me' boxes which include photographs and toys from home to help their sense of belonging.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. Children learn to follow instructions well and are confident to try new things. They develop positive attitudes towards learning and are inquisitive and eager to find out more. Babies and children make independent choices in their play. For example, they choose from a good range of resources both inside and outside. All children learn to have good hygiene routines, for instance, they enjoy washing their hands. They learn a good range of skills to help them be well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483563
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1000212
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	40
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	S J Bridgland Holdings Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902319
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01227732124

Snowflakes Day Nursery registered in 2014 and is in Chartham, near Canterbury, Kent. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm weekdays, except bank holidays, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 8 members of staff, 6 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children age two, three and four years.

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