City Way Day Nursery

18 City Way, Rochester, Kent, ME1 2AB



Inspection date	12 July 2016
Previous inspection date	14 January 2016

	The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
		Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

- The perseverance of the senior leadership team to drive improvement throughout the setting has motivated staff to make positive changes.
- Supportive and sensitive interactions mean that children develop strong relationships with staff, helping them to feel safe and secure.
- Children in the preschool room benefit from uninterrupted play. Staff make good use of both the indoor and outdoor environment so that children can play and explore.
- Regular supervision and monitoring of the quality of teaching has effectively identified training needs. Leaders offer positive support and guidance to less confident staff members.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some focused activities do not meet the needs of the more capable children to ensure that they are sufficiently challenged.
- Opportunities for children to practise and develop their understanding of mathematical concepts in the outdoor area are not yet fully developed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the activity planning to ensure that the more capable children are consistently challenged in their learning
- develop the use of the outdoor area to incorporate better opportunities for children to practise and develop their skills in mathematics.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents to seek their views about the nursery.
- A joint observation took place with a member of the senior team.
- The inspector observed children at play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as planning and assessment records.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Cheryl Walker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The senior team has worked extremely hard to effect positive change, leading to better outcomes for children attending. Honest self-reflection has enabled the committed team to build on their practice. Staff have improved their knowledge of child protection issues and arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Reviewed and updated recruitment and vetting procedures mean that systems are robust and ensure staff are suitable. Regular supervision systems allow the senior team to monitor the way the curriculum is delivered. This effectively promotes communication about how to best support children's individual needs and identifies training needs for staff. The senior team make good use of collected data about children's progress to make changes to the curriculum where gaps in learning are identified.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Leaders use effective systems to monitor the quality of teaching, including direct observations of staff. They ensure any weaknesses in practice are appropriately addressed. This has undoubtedly improved the quality of teaching. The team has developed in confidence and use a variety of interactions to engage with children and support their learning. Staff communicate clearly with children and model learning well. The environment is now better resourced and children have plenty of space to play and learn freely. The atmosphere in all rooms is relaxed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

A positive behaviour policy, consistently implemented, means that children receive clear messages about the staff's expectations of them. Children have formed close bonds with key staff and show that they feel secure. Younger children snuggle in for cuddles. They show enthusiasm when staff spontaneously sing to them, gleefully anticipating words and actions of familiar songs. Parents speak very highly of the support they and their families receive from the setting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their individual starting points and are well-prepared for future learning. They gain good levels of independence as they learn to feed themselves and use cutlery adeptly. Children cooperate with their peers, learn to share and take turns. They learn about the importance of good hygiene through regular routines and how to manage their own needs as they prepare for the transition to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 103713

Local authority Medway Towns

Inspection number 1048389

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 0 - 11

Total number of places 78

Number of children on roll 82

Name of registered person City Way Nursery Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP909931

Date of previous inspection 14 January 2016

Telephone number 01634 845724

City Way Day Nursery has been registered since 1999 and is situated in Rochester, Kent. The nursery provides care for children aged up to five years, and also offers out of school provision for school-aged children. It is open from 7.30am until 6.00pm, Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register, and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are 24 members of staff who work with the children. Of these, 21 hold recognised early years qualifications. One staff member holds Early Years Teacher status. The nursery provides funded early years provision for children aged two, three and four years.

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