

Bright Beginnings

Dering Way, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2JJ



Inspection date

30 August 2016

Previous inspection date

13 December 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 leadership team is highly skilled and qualified. Leaders place an emphasis on continuous professional development and regular training for staff. They support the staff team, providing good supervision and appraisals that enhance their teaching skills.
- Partnership with parents is strong. Staff work closely with parents to build on their children's next steps and to help them extend learning at home.
- Staff are very knowledgeable about child development. They make regular observations and assessments of children's achievements and identify any gaps in learning. Staff provide children with additional support where needed to help them catch up quickly.
- The leadership team continually reflects on teaching practice and strives to raise the quality of care for children. Leaders constantly seek feedback from parents and other professionals and act on the identified areas to improve outcomes for children.
- The leadership team uses a key person approach effectively to support children's emotional well-being. Leaders allocate each child with a key person that helps children to feel safe and secure. Children develop firm attachments with their key person.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently extend children's learning, for example, they do not all build on opportunities that arise during planned activities.
- Sometimes, staff do not give explanations to children about why it is important to follow good hygiene practices to support their good health.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consistently challenge children during activity times to further extend their learning
- give appropriate explanations to children about hygiene practice and its importance to their development and health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the parents' views and comments.
- The inspector and the manager evaluated the effectiveness of an activity together.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including regulatory records, policies and procedures, and the online records of children's learning journeys.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, and staff interaction with children, and held discussions with staff and children.

Inspector

Gwendolyn Andrews

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership team has high expectations for themselves and for the staff team. The manager completes in-depth tracking of children's development, which recently identified gaps in mathematical learning for boys. The staff team attended training and added more resources that have encouraged boys to explore all areas of mathematics. The leadership team uses effective policies and procedures and reviews risk assessments regularly to help keep children safe. Leaders are highly vigilant and ensure that staff understand their responsibility and duty of care for the protection of children. Staff know the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their assessments of children's learning to monitor their progress. They use each child's interests to plan for children's next steps in development effectively. Staff provide a wide range of activities that help children to think and ask questions. For example, they plant fruit with the children and they ask them when the tomatoes that are growing in the garden will be ready to pick. Staff encourage children to become independent learners. For instance, staff plan a good range of activities which children choose for themselves. Recent improvements in the teaching of mathematics have helped children to make good progress in this area. Staff teach children to add and subtract, for example, using number lines and to find numbers in the sand outdoors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff teach children about positive ways to behave and to respect the feelings of those around them. They help children to understand the boundaries. For example, staff constantly use the 'Golden rules' and role model these continuously throughout the day. Staff encourage children to manage and complete tasks independently, and to work cooperatively. For example, children learn to wait their turn patiently at the baking table, while each child completes their given task.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are inquisitive and motivated learners. They develop well from their starting points and those that require additional help make good progress towards typical stages of development. Children are confident and independent. They explore and investigate the world around them. For example, they use the many resources in the outdoor and indoor environments to build a bug hotel. Children learn lots of skills for their move to school. For instance, they learn to concentrate, to listen at group time and to follow instructions and routines for the day.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126993
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1058739
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	270
Name of registered person	North Kent College Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP907049
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2012
Telephone number	01322 629641

Bright Beginnings registered in 2004. It is owned by the North Kent College and is set in the grounds of the college in Gravesend. The nursery is open weekdays from 8am until 6pm. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 27 staff. Of these, 25 hold a qualification at level 3, one has a qualification at level 5 and one has early years professional status.

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