

Mark Beech Nursery School

Cowden Pound Road, Mark Beech, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 5NR



Inspection date

7 September 2016

Previous inspection date

18 May 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

- Staff observe and assess children effectively. They make good use of the information gained to provide activities that reflect children's interests and meet identified learning priorities. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff work well with parents and agencies. They provide consistent care and learning so that every child is helped to achieve and their well-being is supported. Staff make good use of what parents know about their children to extend their learning in the setting.
- The manager monitors and evaluates the teaching and assessment of children effectively. She competently identifies and helps staff to narrow any emerging gaps in children's learning.
- Since the previous inspection, staff have implemented consistent and effective strategies for managing children's behaviour. Children receive clear guidance from staff and develop a good understanding of what is acceptable behaviour.
- Staff are caring and kind. They create a safe, secure and homely environment where children feel at ease and content.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently provide opportunities that offer further physical challenge to those children who already have good coordination and strong physical skills.
- Staff do not always organise resources in the most effective way to enable children to follow their interests and build on their learning freely.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide greater physical challenge for the older and most-able children
- increase opportunities for children to make choices and develop their play independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and members of staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have completed up-to-date safeguarding training. They have a good understanding of how to safeguard children if they have a child protection concern. Staff identify and minimise risks effectively so that children can move around and play safely. The manager actively supports the professional development of staff, for example, by appraising their practice and accessing further training for them. Children benefit from the increasing skills and knowledge of staff. For example, staff have made good use of training on den building to create calm spaces where children play quietly and extend their imaginary play. The staff team is systematically evaluating and improving the practice in the setting. For example, staff are currently focusing well on improving snack times to make them a more valuable learning experience for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carefully observe what individual children can do and how they learn. They get to know children well and interact skilfully with them to extend their learning. Staff build on children's good communication skills well, for example, by introducing new words into their speech such as 'pyramid'. They ask questions that help children to express their ideas and imagination. Staff value children's home languages in the setting. For example, they actively encourage children to speak and count in their home language if they wish to. Staff increase children's understanding of simple calculation, for example, by asking them how many more they need when playing with toy vehicles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly with good individual support from staff. They build strong emotional bonds with staff and readily go to them for help when needed. Staff help children to develop a good understanding of how to stay safe. For example, they talk to children about why they need to put their shoes on when playing outside. They gently remind children of the rules in the setting that help to keep them safe and support their well-being. Staff successfully reinforce children's increasing understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they encourage healthy eating and good personal hygiene practices. Children enjoy being active.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop well in the skills they need for a successful move to school. They are confident, independent and secure. Children join in activities enthusiastically and concentrate well. They develop strong social skills. Children play happily with their friends and learn to share resources. They show an interest in others and are not afraid to ask questions about what is happening. Children are confident and clear speakers. They are able to see to their own personal care needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127370
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1052463
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	Ann Adèle Susan Maria Roberts-Cleeve
Registered person unique reference number	RP513868
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2016
Telephone number	07981338803

Mark Beech Nursery registered in 1990. It operates from a hall in Mark Beech in Kent. The nursery opens for 36 weeks of the year. It opens from 9am to 3pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9am to 12.15pm on Thursdays, and from 9am to 1.30pm on Fridays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. The provider employs four staff. Of these, two staff hold an early years qualification at level 3 and a manager has a qualification at level 4.

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