

Tinkerbells at the Clock Tower

Clock Tower Hall, Adisham Green, Church Milton, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2RQ

Inspection date	7 October 2016
Previous inspection date	8 July 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 encourages staff to evaluate the effectiveness of their practice together as a team. The management and staff fully include children and take into account their ideas and wishes. This helps to provide exceptional outcomes for all children.
- Children gain excellent early reading and writing skills. For example, they learn to recognise words and use these skills to write down and record the birds and nature they see outdoors.
- Children are extremely confident and settled. They excitedly seek out their key person to share their thoughts. Children are very emotionally secure.
- All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language and those children who have additional needs, make outstanding progress. Staff support all children exceptionally well. For example, they use an extensive range of visual aids and hand signs to support children's learning and understanding.
- The management accurately monitors and reviews children's progress. This helps staff to highlight any gaps in development and support children to catch up quickly.
- Staff build excellent partnerships with parents. They encourage them to be fully involved in their children's learning and development. For example, staff share information such as healthy eating ideas and activities to complete with their children at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop even further the range of opportunities for children to extend their understanding of technology and its uses.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff's interaction with children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at the written documentation including a sample of the policies and procedures, risk assessments and staff training records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed the impact of staff's teaching on children's learning.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff build positive partnerships with the other early years settings that children also attend. For example, they visit them and share children's achievements on a regular basis. The managers motivate staff to develop their inspirational teaching skills further. For instance, staff attend courses such as outdoor play training to extend the outdoor learning environment to meet children's specific needs. The managers constantly monitor the quality of teaching. For example, they observe staff and offer constructive feedback in individual support meetings. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an extensive knowledge of the safeguarding policies and procedures to follow to protect children from harm and keep up to date with new guidance. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, they participate in challenging activities such as using a saw, hammer and screwdriver during woodwork activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff support children exceptionally well to prepare them for their move to school. For example, they invite the teachers into the pre-school. Staff are highly skilled at extending children's learning. For example, children enthusiastically made fish and became curious as to whether they could swim. They experimented and tested out their theories in the water. Children have exceptional imaginations. For instance, they make up stories about magical fairies and gnomes. Staff support children's communication exceptionally well. For example, they ask highly skilful questions to encourage them to think. However, staff have yet to develop the range of opportunities for children to investigate technology.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally polite and behave extremely well. They have excellent opportunities to develop their understanding of the similarities and differences between themselves and others. For example, children enjoy cooking and trying a range of different foods from around the world. They have excellent opportunities to develop their physical well-being and health. For instance, children learn the importance of eating a range of healthy foods and enthusiastically prepare nutritious snacks.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those with English as an additional language, rapidly gain exceptional skills to support the next stage of their learning. They develop excellent social skills. For example, children freely compromise, share and take turns. They have excellent opportunities to develop their mathematical skills. For example, children recognise numbers and play more complex games together. They constantly challenge their physical abilities. For example, children climb trees and learn to balance on logs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457596
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1063261
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Donna Marie Barker
Registered person unique reference number	RP516025
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2013
Telephone number	07940274438

Tinkerbells at the Clock Tower registered in 2013. It is one of two pre-schools owned by the same provider. It operates in a community hall in Sittingbourne, Kent. The pre-school operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3pm and on Thursday from 9am to midday, during term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, one staff member holds a relevant early years degree and early years professional status.

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