

Green Cave Nursery

6-10 Vale Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1BP



Inspection date	25 October 2016
Previous inspection date	6 February 2013

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

- Children are sociable, confident and they behave well. They understand and follow the nursery's established routines. For example, on being told it was tea time, children went immediately to wash their hands. Children have strong emotional bonds with their key person and other members of staff.
- The provider encourages the well-qualified staff team to complete training that further develops its knowledge and skills. This helps staff to improve outcomes for children.
- Children make good progress from their starting points. Staff make regular observations and use the information to identify children's next steps in learning and development. Accurate assessments enable leaders and staff to identify any gaps in children's learning and take appropriate action to ensure they catch up.
- Partnerships with local schools are good. Children have opportunities to become familiar with the school settings and staff work closely with the school staff to support children's moves.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not ensure that parents are highly involved in supporting their children's next steps in learning and encouraging children's development at home.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities for children to develop their early reading skills ready for their future learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve engagement with parents to encourage further involvement with children's assessments and to support their children's next steps in learning at home
- improve the opportunities for children to develop their early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability checks of all members of staff.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of children's activities with the relevant key persons and discussed the learning that took place.
- The inspector held discussions about safeguarding procedures with the manager and with other members of staff.
- The inspector spoke to some parents, read their comments and took account of their views.
- The inspector accompanied members of staff and children on a visit to the park.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are fully aware of the procedures to follow, and the people to contact, if they have concerns about a child's safety or well-being. The premises are checked daily for hazards, and risks when on outings are minimised. For example, when walking to the park, children are attached to a walk bar. Children learn to keep safe, such as knowing how to cross the road safely at a pelican crossing. The manager holds regular individual discussions with staff about the effectiveness of their practice and identifies areas where they can make improvements. The management team involves others as it effectively reflects on the nursery and agrees development plans.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have a wide range of opportunities to learn about other cultures. For example, they learn Spanish and find out about Spanish customs, such as Flamenco dancing and the food they eat. Staff help children to understand that we are not all the same. For instance, they gently explain that sometimes when people get old they become ill and cannot walk. Children show good levels of concentration, such as when they carefully glued the 'eyes' on their 'cows'. Staff support children's mathematical awareness well. For example, children were fascinated by the number of ladybirds at the park and counted the spots before gently placing them on the grass 'to keep them safe.' Staff help children to communicate effectively, such as repeating clear words back in simple sentences. This is particularly successful for those children who speak English as an additional language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

A healthy diet supports children's physical development. Children are polite and have good social skills. For example, they chat amiably with staff at mealtimes, saying 'I like this chicken', and giggle when staff say it is fish. Children develop good levels of independence. For instance, they move around confidently, choose their own toys and manage their own personal care needs. Children are confident and behave well. For example, they are able to wait patiently and take turns, such as when they choose a song to sing or share the glue. Staff encourage children's positive self-esteem, such as when they celebrate their achievements and display their work at children's eye level.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn the skills they need for school. For example, they learn to write their own names and form letters correctly. They are able to listen attentively, such as when listening to stories and music, and follow instructions. For example, they recognise red and green on a pelican crossing and understand how these help keep them safe. Children are motivated and confidently take the lead on their learning, such as choosing their own activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY442538
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1062564
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Allergy & Asthma Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP907736
Date of previous inspection	6 February 2013
Telephone number	01892 800 033

Green Cave Nursery registered in 2012 and operates from The Salt Cave in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There are seven members of staff who all have relevant childcare qualifications to level 2 or above. This includes two members of staff who have early years professional status, two staff who hold a level 7 qualification and two with a level 3. The provider receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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