

Choochoos Day Nursery Dover

Crabble Road, Dover, Kent, CT17 0QD



Inspection date

25 November 2016

Previous inspection date

3 March 2014

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

- Leaders have a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They understand how to effectively deploy staff to help them meet children's development and care needs. Leaders record all appropriate documentation required, such as accident, incident and attendance records.
- Staff provide a safe, welcoming and stimulating learning environment. Children make good progress and enjoy their time at the setting.
- Staff provide children with clear guidance to help them manage their behaviour. For example, they remind them about the need for kind hands and encourage them to think about their actions. This helps children learn to behave well.
- Staff complete thorough risk assessments of the environment and review them regularly, which helps to identify and minimise any hazards. Children learn to keep themselves safe, such as practising regular emergency evacuation procedures.
- Children have opportunities to use and develop their home languages. For example, staff use familiar words and parents read books from their individual backgrounds.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to help children think for themselves and develop their own ideas.
- Staff do not consistently encourage younger children to do things for themselves and develop their independence further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with enough time to think through their ideas and find their own answers to help extend their learning further
- increase opportunities for younger children to do things for themselves and fully build their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the nursery.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation including staff's suitability checks and qualifications.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children.

Inspector

Sarah Stephens

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders evaluate their service well. They seek and act on the views of parents and staff. For example, leaders provide a display board to inform parents what they have done as a result of their feedback. They manage the work of their staff effectively. For example, observing their practice, having regular meetings, identifying relevant training and setting targets to develop their skills. Leaders successfully monitor children's progress, including different groups. For instance, they use an online tracking system. They work well with other professionals to support children's individual needs and development. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know the signs that would cause them concern about a child's welfare and the processes to follow.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use the information from their assessments well to help children to make progress. They provide regular opportunities to involve parents in their children's progress. For example, staff have frequent meetings with parents to discuss children's individual needs and plan together for their next stage in development. This helps to provide a consistent approach in meeting their learning needs. Staff build children's communication and language skills well. For instance, they talk to children about their wider experiences and introduce new words to younger children and babies. Staff support children's mathematical development effectively. For example, they introduce counting and use words such as 'big' and 'small' to describe circles. Staff build on children's lead in play to help keep their engagement in their learning. For instance, staff sing nursery rhymes to them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's physical health effectively. For example, they provide daily opportunities for them to be physically active using a wide range of resources and equipment in the outside space. Staff are sensitive and responsive to children's individual needs. For instance, they provide children with extra care and attention when needed, such as when they are tired or have hurt themselves. Staff build children's confidence in their own abilities, such as providing them with positive praise and encouragement.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make progress that is appropriate for their age and gain the skills they need for their move to school. They successfully develop their literacy skills. For example, they read books and draw with chalk. Children explore and investigate a wide range of natural materials and textures during their play, such as bubbles and sand. This helps to keep their motivation and interest in their learning. Children are confident to talk to adults and ask for their help.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468273
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1078325
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	93
Name of registered person	Karla Margharita Tabony
Registered person unique reference number	RP514727
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2014
Telephone number	01304 822 592

Choochoos Day Nursery Dover registered in 2013 and operates in Dover, Kent. It is one of three nurseries run by the provider. The nursery offers care from Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. There are 17 members of staff; of these, 11 hold relevant childcare qualifications. This includes eight with a qualification at level 3 or above and one member of staff who has early years professional status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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