

Future Scholars Nursery

Shadoxhurst Village Hall, Hornash Lane, Shadoxhurst, Ashford, Kent, TN26 1HW



Inspection date

2 December 2016

Previous inspection date

4 October 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 enjoy their time at the setting. They share, cooperate and take part in a good range of exciting activities. For example, children work together to create a large structure with wooden bricks.
- Staff provide stimulating activities, which they plan around children's interests, fascinations and the next steps in their learning. For example, children's love of dinosaurs is used to further discussion, mathematical skills and imaginative play.
- Leaders regularly reflect on and evaluate the effectiveness of the environment and resources. They seek the views of the parents, staff and children to help them identify areas to develop further. For example, children are able to take a basket of writing tools into the garden to make marks on walls, paths, chalkboards and paper to help encourage their early writing skills.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development. Staff provide effective support to help children to catch up in areas where they are developing more slowly. Children are capable, curious and confident learners.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently provide children with sufficient time to think about and develop their own ideas.
- Staff do not make the best use of their partnerships with parents to gather a wide range of information about what their children can do when they start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the opportunities for children to think about and develop their own ideas
- build further on existing partnerships with parents to improve the range of information gathered about what children can do when they start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with parents and sampled parent questionnaires.
- The inspector observed activities in the room and garden.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation including policies and children's records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know how to recognise signs that a child is at risk of harm and what to do if they have concerns. They are well qualified and effectively supported to consistently update and improve their practice. For example, staff attend regular meetings and training opportunities. Staff encourage parents to be involved in their children's learning. For example, an end of term workshop is used to share ideas and activities and to support two-way communication between them. Staff work effectively with other settings that children attend and schools. For example, they share assessments to support continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy a wide range of exciting experiences that help to support their learning and development. For example, they spend lots of time squashing, squeezing and building with a range of 'snowy' materials in a sensory winter wonderland activity. Staff encourage children to talk and listen to one another. For example, during lunch, children share stories about going to visit Santa. Children are encouraged to develop their physical abilities and enjoy exercise. For example, some children take turns to push each other in the wheelbarrow around the garden. Children develop their imaginations and wonder in everyday things. For example, they enjoy playing in the home corner and pretending to make tea for one another. Staff make effective use of daily routines. For example, they talk to the children about the leaves falling from the trees while they wait for a snack.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play well together and display good self-control and behaviour at all times. They are independent and confident. For example, they put on their own coats before playing outside and prepare their own fruit at snack time. Staff form lovely relationships with the children, who enjoy staff's involvement in their games. Children are supported to value and respect different cultures and beliefs. For example, they cook and eat foods from all around the world and celebrate different festivals. Children show high levels of fascination. For example, they enjoy blowing bubbles in the garden to see who can make the biggest bubble.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They enjoy mathematical games such as seeing who can build the tallest tower from large soft bricks. Children develop good physical skills to support their early writing skills. For example, they use tweezers to move pasta from one bowl to another. Children develop good mathematical and reading skills. For example, they recognise their names and count how many boys and girls there are before snack time. Children are ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127341
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1061325
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	Future Scholars Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP524433
Date of previous inspection	4 October 2013
Telephone number	07821 143249

Future Scholars Nursery registered in 1997. It operates from Shadoxhurst Village Hall in Ashford, Kent and is run by a committee. The nursery is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3.30pm, term time only. There are three members of staff who all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years old.

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