

Little Un's Pre-School

Darenth Village Hall, Ladywood Road, Darenth, Dartford, Kent, DA2 7LL



Inspection date

9 January 2017

Previous inspection date

30 April 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

- Staff are deployed effectively to keep children safe. Effective safety procedures and rigorous risk assessments help children play safely in the learning environment.
- Staff get to know children well and build strong relationships with them. Children feel happy, secure and confident to explore their environments.
- The manager encourages and supports staff to continually build on their professional development. For example, since their last inspection, staff have attended several training sessions, including how to organise the play area to stimulate children's communication skills, particularly for the two-year-olds.
- Children make good progress from their starting points, and are well prepared for their next stage of learning including starting school. The manager and staff track the progress of all children and plan relevant activities to help close the learning gaps.
- Staff regularly share information about the progress children make with parents and provide ideas to support home learning. This effective partnership helps to build on continuity in children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not plan challenging activities to suit the older children and also miss opportunities arising from children's play to extend their learning even further.
- Staff do not always provide a wide range of activities and resources outside to support children who learn best outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the planning of activities and encourage staff to seize all opportunities arising from children's play to challenge and extend their learning even further
- develop the range of resources and activities available outside to help those children who learn best outdoors to make even more progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interaction with the children and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including children's assessment records, staff suitability and a selection of policies and procedures, for example, safeguarding and the complaints procedure.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff at appropriate times throughout the day and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and held discussions about children's learning and progress.
- The inspector took into account the views of children and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Josephine Afful

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of procedures to follow if they have any welfare concerns. They are aware of their duty to prevent children being drawn into situations which put them at significant risk of harm. The manager monitors the progress of all children well to help identify any children who may need additional support with their learning. For example, through her tracking she identified that some children were not achieving well in mathematics. She has therefore revised the planning and improved the range of mathematical resources to help those children make significant progress in this area of learning. The manager and staff analyse how best to address weaknesses in the provision and consult parents when making such decisions to help improve children's outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use information gathered from parents and their initial observations to plan for children's next steps in learning. They provide a good range of resources and opportunities that build on children's skills and knowledge. For example, children have extensive opportunities to role play and act out new and familiar situations. Staff and children engage in conversations, helping to develop children's language skills. They support children to acquire good mathematical skills. For example, they encourage children to use their fingers to count and calculate simple mathematical problems. They provide opportunities for children to see and recognise numbers in their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well, and are eager to leave their parents and choose an activity that engages them once they arrive at the pre-school. Staff have a caring approach and are sensitive to children's individual needs. They teach children to be kind and respect each other, and remind them to share and take turns. This contributes positively to children's behaviour. Children learn about their own and other people's similarities and differences. For example, they celebrate festivals from other cultures and staff provide opportunities for children to see and use their home language.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, gain good skills to support their move on to school. For example, they build close relationships and communicate well with each other. They follow instructions and learn to sit quietly in group discussions. Older children confidently manage their personal care needs. They develop an understanding of mathematics, such as early calculation and estimation.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY397584
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1062304
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Maria Kathryn Rushbrooke
Registered person unique reference number	RP908489
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2013
Telephone number	07912 562688

Little Un's Pre-School registered in 2009 and is located in Darenth, Kent. The pre-school is open on Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3.30pm and on Friday from 9am to 12pm, during term time only. There are eight members of staff who work with the children. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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