Playaway Pre School

Cage Green road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN10 4PT



Inspection date	10 March 2017
Previous inspection date	21 January 2015

	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		Outstanding	1	
	Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- All staff know each child exceptionally well and build impressive relationships with them. This helps them to develop extremely high levels of self-worth and self-esteem.
- The manager monitors the consistency of teaching effectively. For instance, she observes the staff teach and provides them with helpful advice which ensures the quality of teaching is good.
- Children learn good skills that support their future learning. For instance, they learn mathematics as they play, such as working out the answer to simple sums.
- Staff establish positive relationships with other early years professionals. Regular meetings are used well to discuss children's development and share ideas.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported to make good progress. For example, staff work closely with outside therapists.
- There are good opportunities for children to explore and learn about the world around them. For example, they collect bugs to look at under a microscope.

It is not yet outstanding because:

Staff do not make best use of relationships with parents in order to encourage consistency between home and the pre-school. They do not share children's achievements frequently to keep parents very well-informed of what their children can do.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

build on the relationships with parents further by sharing children's achievements on a more regular basis so that they are better informed about what their children can do.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including a sample of policies and procedures, risk assessments and staff training records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views into consideration.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager works closely with the staff to effectively review and evaluate their practice. For example, each day they reflect on how well teaching has motivated children to learn. Staff regularly provide children with new and interesting activities which successfully engages them in their learning so that they make good progress. The manager ensures that she keeps the staff's knowledge and skills up to date, as well as building upon her own. For instance, they attend regular training, such as they learn the different ways young children learn and this helps ensure that they fully engage the younger children. The manager and staff closely monitor children's progress. This helps them to highlight any gaps in their development and provide individual support so that children can quickly catch up. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have good knowledge of safeguarding procedures and know who to contact for support and advice to protect children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff skilfully help children to prepare well for the move to school. For instance, children participate in small group times and develop their listening and concentration skills. This helps children understand what will be expected of them. Staff build on children's play well. For example, they have a good understanding of children's interests and use the information well to provide a range of activities that children enjoy choosing from. Staff support children to develop their communication skills well. For example, they consistently use simple signing to accompany words.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

All staff are inspirational role models. Children are exceptionally polite and kind to each other and their behaviour is impeccable. For example, they openly praise and encourage each other as they play. Children show an outstanding understanding of other peoples' differences and similarities. For example, they learn about other countries and cultures, as they celebrate an extensive range of festivals and try new foods, such as when they taste Turkish delicacies. Children develop exceptional understanding of healthy lifestyles. For instance, they discuss the different food groups they eat and know the benefits of vitamins and calcium. Children explore ways of moving in extremely impressive ways, as they stretch and balance in challenging and unusual ways in weekly yoga classes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all abilities make good progress in their learning. They learn good skills that help them be ready for school. For example, they develop good early reading and writing skills as they write their names and recognise simple words. Children learn more complex concepts, such as when they participate in science experiments. Children enjoy predicting which items will float and which will sink and successfully test out their theories.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY256970

Local authority Kent

Inspection number 1085797

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 30

Number of children on roll 35

Name of registered person Rachel Kingsnorth

Registered person unique

reference number

RP902906

Date of previous inspection 21 January 2015

Telephone number 01732 354325

Playaway Pre-School registered in 2003. It operates from a building in the grounds of Cage Green School in Tonbridge. The pre-school operates term time only. It is open from 9am to 1pm each weekday except Wednesday when it opens from 9am to 12pm. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs five members of staff, two of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 and two hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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