

Discovery Nursery LTD

Dover Discovery Centre, Market Square, Dover, Kent, CT16 1PH



Inspection date

26 April 2017

Previous inspection date

12 March 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff support children to develop good communication and speaking skills. For example, they ask challenging questions to encourage children to think and respond.
- Staff and children build positive relationships together. Children settle quickly and happily into play and develop a positive level of well-being and self-esteem.
- Children learn skills that support their future learning. They gain good mathematical understanding, such as they confidently count and participate in simple calculations.
- Staff establish good partnerships with other early years professionals. For example, they visit settings that children also attend to observe children's play together.
- There are good opportunities for children to challenge their physical skills. For instance, they climb on large equipment and negotiate slopes on wheeled toys.
- The manager and staff work closely together to effectively evaluate their practice. For example, they observe each other's interaction with children and provide constructive feedback to help them improve the quality of learning opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always consistently build on children's learning about their own and their friends' different communities and cultures to promote their awareness of diversity even further.
- Staff do not make the most out of opportunities to encourage parents to share their children's achievements from home to support even greater continuity in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to learn about, value and develop their understanding of their own and other backgrounds and cultures, to build even further on their awareness of diversity
- encourage parents to regularly share more about children's care and achievements at home to promote greater continuity in learning between the home and the setting.

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.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager uses effective ways to monitor the quality of care and teaching staff provide. For example, she holds individual discussions with staff and together they evaluate and review their performance. They use the feedback to support their future plans and highlight any training needs. The manager ensures that staff continue to build upon their skills and knowledge further. For instance, they attend regular training. For instance, after training staff now introduce a wider range of ways to support children's speaking skills, such as encouraging children to communicate using visual prompts and words. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow, including who to contact to seek advice or raise concerns. They understand how to successfully protect children's welfare and help keep them safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff monitor and track children's progress closely. This enables them to quickly identify any gaps in children's development and provide individual support to help them successfully move on to the next stage of their learning. Staff help children to prepare for the move to school effectively. For instance, they introduce a school role-play area, where children try on uniforms. This helps children to understand what changes they may experience. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children enjoy a story about a man made of gingerbread, they make their own playdough and use ginger spice to imagine the smells within the story and to bring it to life.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to behave well and are polite and kind. For example, they have their acts of kindness recognised on displays and children feel pride in each other. Children develop good social skills. For instance, they happily share and take turns during group activities, such as lotto games. Children gain a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they have an active role in independently preparing healthy snacks, such as preparing fruit to make a smoothie.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress. Children learn good skills to support their move to school. For example, they develop good early reading skills, such as recognising both their first name and surname. Children participate in activities that require them to challenge and manage risk in a mature way, such as using real tools like drills and hammers. Children learn about more complex ideas, such as carrying out experiments where they make predictions and test out their theories, such as thinking about which snail will win in snail races and which boat will be first over the finishing line in boat races.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY290188
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1092047
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	Discovery Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP524758
Date of previous inspection	12 March 2015
Telephone number	01304 211028

Discovery Nursery Ltd registered in 2004. It is located in the discovery centre, Dover, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm, all year round. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs six members of staff, three of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3, two members of staff hold a relevant early years qualification at level 4 and one member of staff holds a relevant early years degree.

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