

Playhouse Preschool

Allington Community Association, Castle Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME160PZ



Inspection date

5 May 2017

Previous inspection date

26 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The provider has made significant improvements since the previous inspection. She successfully evaluates the provision, identifies areas of weakness and sets targets for improvement. This helps to develop the quality of the provision and provide better outcomes for children.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff use a wide range of questions to help children think for themselves and challenge their learning further. Children make good progress and are ready for their next stage in learning.
- Staff support children's mathematical development well. For example, they talk about space, shape and size during activities.
- Staff understand how to provide opportunities for children to use and develop their home languages in play.
- Staff provide opportunities for children to make their own choices from the wide range of resources available and fully develop their creative skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently provide opportunities for children to develop their understanding of technology further.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to fully develop children's confidence in social situations with their friends.

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 experience a greater range of technology during their play
- build on opportunities for children to further their confidence in social situations.

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 used for the pre-school.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children.

Inspector

Sarah Stephens

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure understanding of the signs that would cause them concern about a child's welfare and the reporting processes to follow. They know how to recognise children who may be at risk of being exposed to extreme behaviours and views. The provider successfully oversees her staff. For example, she identifies relevant training, observes their practice and provides regular meetings. This helps to improve their teaching practice and skills. The provider monitors children's progress well, which helps to identify any gaps in development early and provide the appropriate support. Staff effectively work with other settings children attend. For instance, they have discussions and share progress information. This aids a consistent approach in meeting children's learning and development needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff successfully support children's learning and development. They plan activities that sustain children's interest and motivation in their learning. Staff effectively engage children in conversations about their wider experiences, which helps build their communication and language development further. Staff successfully support children's literacy skills. For instance, they read to them, encouraging children to explore the pages and recall the story. Staff give children positive praise and encouragement to aid their self-esteem. They provide regular opportunities to involve parents in their children's learning. For example, staff have daily discussions, share children's records and offer meetings. This helps parents to continue their children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a welcoming and safe environment. They effectively deploy themselves across the pre-school and continually ensure that they meet children's individual needs and well-being successfully. Children behave well. Staff provide children with clear guidance and explanations to help them manage their actions. For example, they encourage children to share, take turns and play nicely together. Staff support children's physical health well. For example, they offer nutritious snacks and daily opportunities to be physically active. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, staff practise regular emergency evacuation procedures with them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make progress that is typical for their age and in some areas, better than expected. They build their independence well. For example, they use tongs to serve themselves fruit and spread cheese on bread. Children successfully develop a variety of physical skills. For example, they cut and roll out dough, thread cereal on to sticks and ride bikes and scooters in the outside space.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448617
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1095688
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Preschool Playhouse (Kent) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531703
Date of previous inspection	26 May 2016
Telephone number	07761 697 295

Playhouse Preschool registered in 2012 and is situated in Maidstone, Kent. The pre-school offers care, Monday and Friday, from 9am to 3pm, and Tuesday to Thursday, from 9am to 12pm, term time only. The pre-school employs eight staff; of whom six hold relevant early years qualifications, including one member of staff who holds qualified teacher status. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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