

Lydd House Playgroup

115-117 Station Road, Lydd, Kent, TN29 9LL



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

26 May 2017

9 June 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

- Highly sensitive, nurturing staff offer children and their families exceptional levels of emotional support. A culture of respect, warmth and concern for the care and welfare of children is evident across the nursery. The children are extremely confident, happy and secure.
- Children play and learn in a well-planned, stimulating and exciting environment. For example, children squeal with delight as they roll, climb and swing in an innovative and thoughtfully resourced garden.
- A strong leadership team ensures all children are safe and receive good-quality care and education. For example, it has developed a rigorous recruitment process for all new staff and students to ensure their suitability and ability to teach children.
- Partnership with parents is good. Staff involve parents in assessments of their children's progress and staff regularly share ideas to extend children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes leaders are less effective at sharing their strong knowledge and skills to extend staff's good teaching practice.
- Staff do not help children to develop a meaningful understanding of technology in real-life situations and some resources they provide are not functional.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the good knowledge and professional skills of all staff to raise teaching to the highest level
- help children gain a better understanding of how technology is used in everyday life.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in the playrooms and garden.
- The inspector looked at questionnaires and spoke with parents to gain their views.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and held meetings with the nominated person and manager.
- 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. Leaders ensure staff have a good understanding of how to recognise and respond to concerns regarding the welfare of children. They ensure staff use thorough risk assessments and minimise identified hazards, to help keep children safe. Leaders have an ambitious vision for the nursery and strive to make positive improvements. They have improved the induction of staff to ensure they have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Leaders monitor the progress of all children and support staff to identify where children may need additional help to catch up or to increase challenge for the most able. Staff work effectively with other professionals to ensure all children make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children benefit from very strong and consistent teaching. Staff's precise observations of children help them plan effectively for their interests. For example, children enjoy playing with sand, shells and water, and share memories and stories about a recent trip to the beach with staff. Staff help children express their thoughts and ideas. For example, notebooks are available in the rooms and garden for children to write lists and draw. Staff's high-quality interactions help develop children's good communication skills and confidence to experiment and discover. For example, children make 'cakes' in the mud kitchen and staff encourage them to describe their creations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely sociable and exceptionally well behaved. Relationships between staff and children are excellent. For example, staff know each child's needs and meet them extremely well. Children confidently communicate their emotional and physical needs and ask staff for help. Staff skilfully encourage all children to concentrate and persevere as they engage in activities. Children are exceptionally keen to share their achievements with staff. For example, they carefully build high towers with bricks and learn to climb on ropes. Staff teach children about the similarities and differences within their community. For example, they expertly support children's home languages.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Children display exceptionally high levels of curiosity, imagination and independence. For example, they delight in finding bugs and worms as they dig in the garden. Children enjoy activities that prepare them well for the move to school. For example, they listen well to stories and join in with singing songs. Children develop good mathematical and recall skills. For example, they identify shapes and patterns as they draw with paintbrushes in the sand and they remember what everybody likes to eat for a snack during a spontaneous memory game.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127356
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1089343
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 - 5
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Lydd House Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522344
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2015
Telephone number	01797 458160

Lydd House Playgroup registered in 1989. The group operates on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8am to 6pm, and on Friday from 8am to 1pm, during term time only. The playgroup receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup employs six full-time members of staff. One member of staff has early years professional status and three hold an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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