

Cobnuts Woodland Nursery And Forest School

Cobnuts Woodland Nursery Unit 13, Wealden Forest Park, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 7LQ



Inspection date

22 June 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children's physical health and development benefit greatly from the vast range of opportunities to learn in the open air with inspiring natural materials.
- Children develop high levels of independence. For example, they competently prepare themselves ready for their outings to the woods. They are highly motivated to learn outdoors and lead their own play experiences with enthusiasm.
- Children develop an excellent understanding of working together and respectful behaviour. For example, they consider one another's thoughts and feelings within their experiences and provide comfort for their friends when required. They respect each other's views and play extremely well together.
- Exemplary relationships between staff provide excellent role models for children and encourage extremely high standards of behaviour. For instance, children are incredibly kind and caring, particularly with the nursery dog that forms part of the setting's family.
- Staff maintain excellent partnerships with parents. They share information daily and provide detailed reports about children's learning. This helps parents support children's learning at home and have an excellent understanding of their progress.
- Children make outstanding progress during their time in the nursery. All groups of children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including starting school. Staff are extremely sensitive and responsive to meeting children's individual needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance children's already excellent opportunities to celebrate and gain the highest sense of achievement in their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector took account of the parents' views on the provision during the inspection.

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team evaluates practice constantly and completes training. This helps to improve staff's high level of skills and assists the development of children's outstanding learning even further. The team identifies further areas in which to increase the already excellent childcare practice. For example, children are now completely involved and engaged in the reflection and planning process for their own learning opportunities. Staff extend their skills, for example, through training, to further improve the already excellent quality of learning for children. The manager and staff carefully monitor children's progress over time. They swiftly put plans in place to close gaps in learning so that children continue to achieve excellent outcomes. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are extremely knowledgeable and very well trained in child protection procedures. Their vigilance and care are exceptionally well reflected in all aspects of their work.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide an excellent quality of teaching. Children develop outstanding communication, language and thinking skills. For example, staff actively involve children in ongoing discussions and asks questions that help children to think critically and to solve problems. Children develop exceptional confidence in their physical abilities. For example, they consider how to manoeuvre a large plank of wood through the woodland and use it effectively within their imaginative play. Staff have excellent links with the other settings that children attend, as well as other agencies. This helps staff to share comprehensive information about children's progress and to complement their learning extremely well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children enjoy limitless opportunities to explore, investigate and work together. Staff very skilfully inspire children to develop a significant understanding of the world in which they live. Children's behaviour is excellent. For example, they listen intently and gain an exceptional understanding of the safety rules. Children are extremely able and safely use real tools, such as hammers, making their natural creations. Staff fully involve children in the planning and organising of activities, and provide an excellent range of choices. This contributes to children's high levels of confidence and independence as learners. Staff are considering ways to boost children's confidence and pride in their early writing further.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children access an exceptional range of resources and activities that reflects, values and increases their awareness of diversity. They use their imaginations exceptionally well, and negotiate ideas and views within their extremely rich play experiences. They are highly motivated and lead their own play with confidence, and most of all have fun.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY487164
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1007942
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	1 - 10
Total number of places	31
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Cobnuts Woodland Nursery And Forest School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534430
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01227 719 408

Cobnuts Woodland Nursery And Forest School re-registered in 2015. It is privately owned by Cobnuts Woodland Nursery And Forest School Ltd. It operates in an industrial estate near Wildwood nature centre in Herne Common, Kent. The nursery operates as a forest school and is off the premises in a private local woodland for significant parts of the day. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff working directly with the children, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

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