

Hawkhurst Pre-School

Hawkhurst Church of England Primary School, Fowlers Park, Rye Road, Hawkhurst,
CRANBROOK, Kent, TN18 4JJ



Inspection date

3 July 2017

Previous inspection date

12 February 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

- The manager gives the staff good support and encourages them to pursue training to improve their knowledge and skills.
- Key workers have strong relationships with children and this helps to provide good support for their self-esteem and emotional well-being. Children feel safe and secure and their behaviour is good.
- Children enjoy, and freely choose from, the wide range of activities available both inside and outside.
- When children start at the pre-school, their key person finds out what they can do and establishes their next steps. These staff make frequent observations as children learn and use the information to plan suitable activities to support their learning and development. Children make good progress.
- Children are well prepared for the next stages of their education, including school. Staff meet with other providers to discuss children's achievements and learning needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff challenge children within their activities to further develop their learning and thinking skills.
- Staff do not encourage all parents to fully contribute to their children's learning and assessment, to consistently support children's next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- challenge children within activities to further develop their learning and thinking skills
- involve parents more in their children's learning and assessment, to further encourage consistency in helping children to learn and progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and children and took account of their views.
- The inspector discussed the provider's evaluation of their work and the documents relating to children's progress.
- The inspector viewed the premises and equipment that children use.
- The inspector observed children's learning with the manager and discussed staff's practice and children's progress with her.
- The inspector sampled written documentation, including that which relates to safeguarding, and spoke to members of staff about their understanding of safeguarding.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a thorough knowledge of the procedures to follow to keep children safe and secure. They know who to contact if they are concerned about a child's safety or welfare. Senior leaders accurately evaluate their practice and, in consultation with children, make improvements. For example, an outdoor cooking area has recently been provided. The progress of children is checked regularly and this information is used to identify learning delays and put in appropriate support to close any gaps. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who receive support from additional funding, and their families, are effectively supported. This helps them to make typical progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage children's physical skills effectively. They enjoy digging in the soil, riding bicycles and making sea creatures from modelling dough. Children can confidently count to at least 10 and spontaneously recognise numbers as they play and learn. Adults engage with children in their play, for instance, to help them to use the colour of the ice creams they have made to decide on the flavour. Children explore the effect of water mixed with sand and delightedly catch the water as it flows through the water wall. They have wide-ranging opportunities to learn about different cultures around the world. For example, they make clay lamps for Diwali, read stories and try different foods. Children celebrate major Christian festivals as well as other special days.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The environment is clean and hygienic. Children are motivated and confidently lead their own learning. They follow and understand well-established routines. They hand out plates and cups at snack time and understand how to take turns. For example, they take turns to pour the tea in the role-play area. Children are independent and do things for themselves, such as registering themselves in at pre-school each day, finding their own wellington boots and taking off their shoes. Children have good relationships with their peers. At snack time, children voluntarily decide to peel bananas, cut them up and share with the other children, making sure each child has a piece.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn a wide range of the skills they need for the next stage of their education, including school. They practise writing their names and can recognise different sounds and numbers. Children enjoy sharing stories with their friends and know how to turn the pages and talk about the pictures. Children have a wide range of opportunities to develop their early writing skills. They learn to listen to instructions and manage their own personal care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440900
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1085964
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Hawkhurst Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP531319
Date of previous inspection	12 February 2015
Telephone number	01580754226

Hawkhurst Pre-School registered in 2010 and is adjacent to the Primary School in Hawkhurst, Kent. It is open each weekday from 9am until 3pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff. All staff hold qualifications at level 3 or above.

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