

The Barna-Bus Pre-School

St Barnabas Church Hall, Quarry Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2EY



Inspection date

12 July 2017

Previous inspection date

29 April 2014

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 and staff evaluate their practice effectively. For instance, they have daily discussions to reflect upon the day's events. Staff use the evaluation to plan and implement new ideas and make beneficial improvement plans together. This helps ensure children continue to make good progress.
- Staff establish positive relationships with children. For example, they get to know their individual personalities well. This helps children to settle confidently into play.
- Staff help keep parents fully involved in their children's learning. For example, they encourage them to regularly add to their learning records and share activity ideas.
- There are good opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills. For example, older children 'write' their own version of their favourite stories.
- Children have good opportunities to explore and investigate the natural world. They learn how things grow, such as planting sunflowers.
- There is a wide range of opportunities for children to develop their understanding and gain respect for other people's similarities and differences in the wider world. For example, they make rangoli patterns to celebrate Diwali.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most out of opportunities for children to choose their own play more freely and develop their independence skills even further.
- Staff miss some opportunities to fully embed children's understanding of the importance of following hygiene routines more consistently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for children to choose their own play and help develop their independence even further
- build upon children's understanding about the importance of following good hygiene routines more consistently to help keep themselves healthy.

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's 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 monitors the consistency of the quality of care and teaching effectively. For example, she observes staff teaching children and provides them with constructive feedback to support their practice. This helps improve children's learning outcomes. The manager and staff are proactive at keeping up to date with new ideas. They attend regular training to help extend their skills and knowledge further. For example, staff learnt how to help children develop their speaking skills more, such as by introducing visual props. The manager and staff closely monitor children's progress. This enables them to promptly highlight any gaps in their development and provide them with good individual support to help close them. Staff use additional funding effectively to meet children's individual learning needs, such as purchasing supportive resources and training. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow and whom to contact to raise concerns. They successfully help protect children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff establish positive relationships with other early years professionals. For instance, they regularly share children's achievements with the other settings they attend. This helps provide children with a good consistent approach to their shared learning. Staff support children effectively to manage the changes that they may experience at school. For example, children learn how to dress in the uniform with confidence. Staff skilfully build on children's play. For instance, when children enjoyed a book about a caterpillar, staff encouraged them to sequence the life cycle of a butterfly. Staff support children to develop good communication skills. For example, they ask them challenging questions. Children are confident to communicate their ideas, such as making up their own rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop positive attributes to support their life skills, for example, they are polite and behave well. Children have good opportunities to challenge their physical skills. For example, they make obstacle courses to climb and balance, and use more complex equipment, such as climbing walls at the park. Children develop a good understanding of the importance of healthy foods. For example, they actively help to grow their own foods for snacks, such as apples and carrots.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children learn good skills to help prepare them for school. For example, they gain early mathematical skills when they confidently count as they play. Children participate in activities that require teamwork and the ability to follow instructions with a good level of maturity, such as when they helped construct some new equipment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368400
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1068865
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	The Barna-Bus Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP906645
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2014
Telephone number	01892 616160

The Barna-Bus Pre-School registered in 2008. It is located in a church hall in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. The pre-school is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.50am until 2.50pm, term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs 10 members of staff, of whom two hold level 2 qualifications, three hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and one member of staff holds a relevant early years qualification at level 5.

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