

Rain Or Shine Forest Preschool

Judd Wood Farm, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 8AB



Inspection date

12 October 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The owner and staff are extremely passionate and driven about providing the very best levels of care and education for children. This is clearly reflected in the progress children make and the skills they learn in readiness for the next stage in their education.
- Children flourish in all aspects of their development. They gain excellent levels of independence, confidence and resilience, along with a very keen attitude for learning.
- Children's happiness, safety and welfare are of the utmost importance to the owner and staff. Safeguarding comprehensively underpins all aspects of the running of the preschool.
- Staff make the very best use of the natural environment around them to teach children and enhance their learning in a stimulating, exciting and challenging way.
- There is a highly effective partnership with parents to promote the best outcomes for children. Parents comment extremely positively about the preschool and the experiences their children enjoy.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent provision to further support children's literacy development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the support for children's learning outdoors at both sites of the preschool.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including records of the progress that children have made, staff records, risk assessments, accident records and policies and procedures.
- The inspector talked to parents who were available on the day of the inspection, sampled their written comments and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the owner.
- The inspector held discussions with the owner and staff throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Lisa Watson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The owner is a very competent leader. She takes her responsibilities regarding safeguarding extremely seriously to make sure children are safe. Security of the premises has recently been reviewed and further strengthened to make sure children cannot leave unsupervised. Staff are exceptionally well deployed throughout both sites of the preschool in order to keep children safe. They all understand the comprehensive safeguarding procedures to protect children from harm. Staff work collaboratively with parents to achieve the best outcomes for each child. The daily electronic diaries and photographs sent to parents provide them with a valuable insight into their children's experiences. Parents keep regularly informed about events happening at the preschool. They are encouraged to contribute, for example by reading to the children in their home languages.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff expertly teach children with considered questioning to explore their ideas and understanding. They guide children to work out how to solve problems. For example, children learn how to safely use tools such as hammers to crack open a chestnut. Staff also know when to give the children space to investigate and discover independently so they direct their own learning. Planning is focused exceptionally well on children's current interests and developmental needs to help them make the best possible progress in all areas of learning. Staff observe and assess children's progress meticulously. They accurately identify where further support may be needed so that children continue to achieve and develop very well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary and staff give them worthwhile opportunities to negotiate and manage their own behaviour. For example, children count aloud as they sit together and wait patiently for turn on a swing, deciding among themselves who is next. Older children purposefully help to tidy up, responding immediately when the bell is rung to do so before they get ready to go home. Staff and children have close emotional bonds, helping each child feel secure and settled. Staff know the children extremely well and caringly meet their individual care needs. Children demonstrate very high levels of independence and are curious, imaginative and energetic in their play. Safety underpins all of the activities and children quickly learn what the rules are.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All areas of learning are taught extremely well to help children achieve the skills and knowledge needed for the future. Mathematics is taught particularly well, for example, as older children learn simple addition and subtraction during group time. Children learn to recognise that words carry meaning and use writing tools when they want to mark their names. Due to the extensive range of exciting activities available, children are not always encouraged to take full advantage of opportunities to extend their understanding of literacy. All of the children quickly make exceptionally good progress in their learning from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538569
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1113495
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	0 - 8
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Rain Or Shine Forest Preschool Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP538568
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01732 356421

Rain or Shine Forest Preschool Limited registered in 2016. It operates from two sites within private woodland in Tonbridge, Kent. The preschool is open Monday to Thursday from 9.15am to 2.15pm, term-time only. The holiday club operates Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 3pm during one week at Easter and two weeks in the summer holidays. The provider receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of nine staff work with the children. Of these, four hold qualified teacher status, one holds an early years degree, five are forest school trained staff at level 2 or 3 and one holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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