Seal Village Pre-School





Inspection date	19 October 2017
Previous inspection date	21 June 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and man	nagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider and staff have made significant improvements since the last inspection. They have worked closely with the local authority to improve practice. These changes have had a positive impact on children's welfare, safety and well-being.
- The manager uses self-evaluation effectively to review practice and identify areas for change. For example, staff have increased the opportunities for children to learn more about the diversity of each other's backgrounds.
- Children make good progress in their learning. Staff are quick to identify and support any gaps in children's development to ensure they are well prepared for school.
- Staff work closely with other professionals. Together with parents, they plan ways to meet the needs of individual children. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently encourage all parents to contribute information about what their children achieve at home, to help provide an even more precise picture of their learning progress.
- Children are not consistently able to extend their understanding of the world as the tools and resources provided are at times unsuitable.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance partnerships with parents to encourage them to share more information about children's learning at home
- extend children's experiences to increase their awareness of the wider world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of committee members and staff working at the pre-school. She sampled other documentation, including policies and procedures and the setting's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times and held meetings with the manager, the committee secretary and the local authority adviser.

Inspector

Mary Vandepeer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a clear understanding of their responsibility to keep children safe. They know what to do if they have any concerns about a child in their care. Suitable recruitment and vetting arrangements are secure and up to date and help to ensure children's welfare and safety. The provider makes sure that Ofsted is aware of all committee members so relevant checks can be completed. She keeps a record of suitability checks conducted for staff and committee members. The manager supports staff well and encourages them to take up professional development opportunities. For example, they recently attended training which helped them to provide more interesting opportunities for children to improve their understanding of mathematics. Parents comment how happy they are with their children's progress in all areas. They are also full of praise for the caring and approachable manager and staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children and assess and plan interesting activities and experiences based on the next steps in their learning. They understand how children learn and are skilful in adapting activities so they interest and challenge children of different abilities. Children's language and communication skills are promoted well and staff engage children in meaningful conversations. Children are encouraged in developing their literacy skills. There is a range of opportunities to support children's early writing skills, such as when they use chalks to draw on boards and make marks in the sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children who have recently started at the pre-school, settle in quickly. A visual, interactive timeline helps remind them of the routine of the session. Staff support children to develop independence. For example, they decide when they are ready to eat a snack and select food from bowls. Children develop good physical skills. For instance, they learn how to climb safely in the garden and how to ride tricycles successfully. Children learn about their local community and various locations. They regularly visit an elderly people's home. Children play and interact with the residents, and all those involved delight in how much this contributes to their social development.

Outcomes for children are good

All children thrive in this warm, caring and welcoming environment. They learn to take turns, share and respect each other, making meaningful relationships. Children are confident and independent, choosing the resources they want to play with and where. All children make good progress in their learning. Staff help them to be prepared for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY276356

Local authority Kent

Inspection number 1108093

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 16

Number of children on roll 13

Name of registered person

Seal Village Pre-School Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP910847

Date of previous inspection 21 June 2017

Telephone number 01732 762 799

Seal Village Pre-School registered in 2004 and is located on the site of Seal Church of England Primary School, near Sevenoaks, Kent. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm, during term time only. The provision receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. There are four members of staff who work with the children, all of whom have relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or above.

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