

Biddenden PlaySchool

John Mayne C of E Primary School, High Street, Ashford, Kent, TN27 8AL



Inspection date	31 October 2017
Previous inspection date	19 March 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 shows a strong commitment to improvement and continually focuses on how she can improve the playschool. She effectively uses feedback from parents, staff and children to develop a good understanding of the quality of the playschool.
- Staff know the children well. They know what children can do and what they are interested in. They plan activities that stimulate their curiosity and engage them in their learning.
- Staff work closely with parents so that they understand how well their children are doing and how they can support their learning and development at home.
- Children develop trusting relationships with caring staff. They confidently share their thoughts and feelings with them, and staff listen and respond appropriately to their concerns, joy and excitement.
- Children make good progress from their starting points, including those who have special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language. Any gaps in their learning or development are identified quickly and interventions put in place to stop them falling behind their peers.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the manager knows the progress of individual children, she is not able to monitor how progress is being made by different groups of children.
- Sometimes staff miss opportunities to strengthen and extend the knowledge children demonstrate as they use mathematics in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop how the progress of all children is monitored so that the manager clearly knows how well specific groups of children are achieving
- recognise children's growing knowledge of mathematics and further extend their learning as they play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and children's play inside and outside.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with children and all staff. She spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector conducted a shared observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including children's records of progress, self-evaluation and development plans, complaints, recruitment records, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are very knowledgeable and fully understand the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. The manager works well with the local authority to help identify what the playschool does well and where it may benefit from improving. She provides regular feedback to staff and supports them to improve the quality of their teaching and professional development. For instance, they have recently worked with other professionals and agencies to develop information to be shared with other settings around the use of communication and language at mealtimes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff team regularly assesses children's skills as they play. Staff skilfully use their observations to accurately identify children's next stages in learning and development. Well-planned activities support children to interpret their ideas and experiences as they play, such as when they create firework pictures with neon paint and glitter. Children's language skills are supported well. For example, children develop their vocabulary as they join in the telling of familiar stories. Staff provide children with varied and interesting resources to help develop their physical skills, such as when they sweep the autumn leaves with brooms or use tweezers to move small objects into containers. Children spontaneously use mathematics in their play. For instance, they recognise which of two items is heavier and make regular patterns with coloured pegs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to behave as staff give them clear guidance on what is expected. Staff get to know the families well, which helps children settle quickly and feel safe. Children's confidence grows as staff recognise and praise their efforts. They talk about their shared experiences, such as the recent Bonfire Night celebrations. Children develop the language of feelings, to express themselves confidently, from staff who are considerate and thoughtful. Children learn about the lives of others and recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others. They enjoy plenty of opportunities for fresh air and daily exercise, such as when they learn and play in the woods.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children are well prepared for school. Their literacy skills are developing well. For example, they recognise their names and attempt to write the initial letters. Children are curious and interested in what is happening around them. They develop independence skills, such as putting on their coats and wellington boots when they go outside and taking themselves to the bathroom. Children are sociable and chatty, and develop good friendships with their peers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350040
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1093022
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	26
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Bethersden Playschool Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903351
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2015
Telephone number	07902231911

Biddenden PlaySchool registered in 2007. It is one of two privately owned playschools. It operates from a building in the grounds of John Mayne C of E Primary School in Biddenden, Kent. The playschool is open every weekday from 9am to 3pm, term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one member of staff has a level 2 qualification.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

