

Bockhanger Monkeys

Bockhanger Community Hall, Bybrook Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent, TN24 9JE



Inspection date

22 November 2017

Previous inspection date

3 November 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Excellent and innovative teaching strategies help all children learn positive personal skills and good behaviour. Children receive outstanding support from well-qualified staff who know them well. Children feel good about themselves when, for example, their positive behaviour is recognised, celebrated and shared with their parents.
- Excellent communication and trusting relationships between staff and parents promote consistency of care and learning between home and nursery.
- The manager tracks the progress of all children very well. Where gaps are identified in their learning, interventions are put in place quickly to prevent children falling behind their peers. Children make very good progress from their starting points, including those who have special educational needs (SEN) or who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff keenly observe what children can do and in what they are interested. They use this knowledge to plan activities that provide them with lots of exciting opportunities to learn and develop new skills.
- Children enjoy coming to nursery and are keen to learn. They play happily alongside one another as they learn to listen to and respect each other. They are prepared well for their future learning, including when they go to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to further develop and extend the ideas and thoughts of most-able children while they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to extend and challenge learning for the most able children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and children's play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector conducted a shared observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at range of documentation, including children's records of progress, self-evaluation and development plans, complaints and staff recruitment records.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and a small selection of parents, and took their views into account.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager uses feedback from staff and parents to identify areas for improvement in the nursery. She demonstrates a strong commitment to improving outcomes for all children. All staff receive regular feedback to improve and develop their professional practice. Training opportunities are having a positive impact on improving the quality of teaching. For example, following training, behaviour management is greatly improved. Safeguarding is effective. All staff know how to respond if they have concerns about a child. Children's welfare is at the heart of everything they do. Robust policies and procedures are continually updated and shared with parents. The manager works closely with other professionals. All children are kept safe from harm and develop well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-planned activities demonstrate staff's good knowledge of children's development. Assessments accurately identify what children need to do so that they can make good progress and achieve well. Staff have a strong focus on developing children's communication and language skills. For example, they use sign language and visual symbols to help children express themselves. Staff speak clearly to the children and use rhymes and songs to introduce new sounds and words. Children are encouraged to exercise and develop strong physical skills, such as when they stretch and breathe deeply to start the morning session or when they use scissors to cut play dough in to small pieces. Outside, children enjoy naturally occurring opportunities to learn. For example, they see the effects of the wind on the bubbles they are blowing and how the paper moves on the easel as they paint.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have formed excellent relationships with warm, caring staff. They flourish in an environment that is safe and emotionally supportive. Regular and meaningful praise helps children develop positive self-esteem and pride in their achievements. Excellent support is provided to help children learn words for how they are feeling. Children show extremely high levels of curiosity and concentration, such as when they experiment by making sounds down long, wide cardboard tubes. Staff regularly talk with children and their parents about keeping safe. Children learn about similarities and differences and share experiences as they learn about different festivals and cultures.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated, happy and inquisitive. For example, they work well together to find worms and mini-beasts in the outdoor area. They use their growing awareness of mathematics to count accurately and estimate. They confidently write on the whiteboard with pens and the patios with chalk. They are developing a genuine love of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY292262
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1070610
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	30
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Nicola Yvonne Dawkins
Registered person unique reference number	RP906366
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2014
Telephone number	07860 169353

Bockhanger Monkeys registered in 2004. It is open every week day from 9am to 3pm during term time only. There are six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from levels 2 to 5. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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