

Nellies Pre-School

Shepway Youth And Community Centre, Cumberland Avenue, Maidstone, ME15 7JN



Inspection date

1 December 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff establish positive and trusting relationships with children. They visit them at home to meet them in their familiar surroundings to help get to know them well.
- Children develop good early reading skills to support their future learning. For example, they confidently recognise letters and have a keen interest in books.
- Staff build positive partnerships with other early years professionals. They help provide children with a good, consistent approach to their shared care and learning. For example, they regularly share children's achievements with settings they also attend.
- Children confidently communicate their ideas. They are keen to share their thoughts when answering challenging questions asked by staff.
- The manager regularly monitors the consistency of the quality of teaching. For example, she observes staff practice daily and offers constructive advice to support their future development.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their creative skills. For example, they participate in interesting craft activities, such as making a three-dimensional hedgehog house.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to help children to develop more advanced climbing and balancing skills to support their physical development even further.
- The manager and staff miss opportunities to develop systems to monitor the progress of different groups of children more effectively.

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 children have each day to develop their good physical skills further
- review and improve the systems to monitor the progress of differing groups of children, to support staff to plan for children's learning even more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with children and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- 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 training records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff work closely together to evaluate their current practice effectively. They ensure that they make positive changes to practice by implementing new ideas regularly. Staff reflect together as a team on the changes they make and review the impact on children's learning. This helps staff ensure that they keep children interested and engaged in their learning experiences. The manager and staff are keen to build on their knowledge and skills even further. For example, they attend regular training, such as learning how to support children to develop good early writing skills during outdoor play. Staff establish positive relationships with parents and keep them involved in and informed of their children's progress. For instance, they maintain a two-way flow of information about children's achievements. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding and child protection procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments and ensure that the premises are safe and secure.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor children's individual progress. This enables them to promptly highlight any gaps in their individual development. Staff provide children with good support to catch up in their learning. They help children effectively to prepare for their eventual move to school. For example, children learn to make independent choices and choose their own play with confidence. Staff extend children's play well. For instance, children who are excited by a dinosaur story are encouraged to create their own dinosaur land using sand and soil to help bring their imagination alive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are positive role models. Children are polite and behave well. For example, they recap the 'golden rules' daily. Children learn the importance of healthy eating. They are keen to explore healthy foods as they peel and cut interesting vegetables, such as Brussels sprouts and onions. Children develop a good understanding and gain respect for other people's similarities and differences in the wider world. For example, they learn simple words like, 'hello' in other languages, such as Polish.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, make good progress in relation to their individual starting points. Children develop good social skills. For example, they happily share and take turns with resources with positive levels of maturity. Children gain good abilities to support their future learning. For example, they develop secure early mathematical skills, such as completing simple sums and counting with confidence as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496537
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1032568
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	Nellies Pre School LTD
Registered person unique reference number	RP534621
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07597488369

Nellies Pre-School registered in 2015. It is located in Maidstone, Kent. The pre-school is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to midday, Wednesday from 9am to 2pm and Friday from 9am to 1pm, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It employs four members of staff, all of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 2 or above.

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