

Kingfisher Preschool

The Hut, Swallow Road, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 6PY



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

24 May 2018

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

- Parents value the daily opportunities they have to discuss their child's learning and development. They say staff are always professional, pleasant and available, and that their children are treated fairly and positively. Parents now find it easier to contribute to their child's assessments, following the introduction of an online system.
- Children are happy and behave well. They feel safe. Relationships between the children and the staff are warm and trusting, and this helps to support their emotional well-being.
- Staff share information with settings where there is shared care, including on transfer to school, to support a consistent approach in developing children's learning. Children have opportunities to meet their new teachers both in the setting and at the school.
- Staff benefit from regular meetings with senior leaders to discuss their practice and training needs. This helps staff to improve their knowledge and skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff do not use assessment information effectively to monitor the progress of children and help them make the best possible progress.
- Staff do not always give children a clear signal when there is a change of routine or activity to help children understand what is expected.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of assessment information to monitor children's progress and help them make the best possible progress
- give children clear guidance about what is expected of them when there is a change of routine or activity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector examined a range of documents, including those relating to safeguarding children and managing their behaviour.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the staff and looked at children's learning and progress records.
- The inspector and the manager observed members of staff interacting with children and discussed their practice.
- The inspector read the self-evaluation documents and discussed these with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents and children, and took their views into consideration.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The staff understand the procedures to follow to help keep children safe and know whom to contact if they have a concern about a child's safety or welfare. Senior leaders accurately evaluate their practice. For instance, following the introduction of an online system, parents can now make regular contributions to their child's assessment records. The premises are checked on a daily basis to ensure there are no risks to children's safety. Children who have special educational needs/and or disabilities are identified and supported effectively. Where necessary, staff seek the advice of external professionals to meet children's needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

When children start at the nursery, their key person works with parents to establish what they know and can do. Staff make regular observations of children as they play and learn. Children successfully lead their own learning. For example, they make handprints and decide to sprinkle glitter on them. Staff support children's physical development effectively. They ride bicycles, safely negotiating space and enjoy balancing on the 'toadstools' outside in the fresh air. Children enjoy listening to stories and enthusiastically join in and comment on the pictures, stating, 'The caterpillar will have a tummy ache!'

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's independence and help them to learn about personal safety. For example, they patiently explain to a child how to hold a strawberry to safely cut it in half. Children make compromises with each other, avoiding conflict. For instance, children make a decision that they will share the carrying of a jug of water, agreeing that one will carry it to the steps and that the other one will then take over. Staff use current events to promote children's understanding of other cultures. For example, a recent royal wedding was used to explore the celebration of weddings in other countries. Children's understanding of similarities and differences between themselves and others is further enhanced through the reading of stories and an explanation of how lifestyles may differ from their own.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stage of their education. They learn to recognise their own names and to find their coats and put them on independently. Children have plenty of opportunities for making marks and developing their early writing skills. For example, they make marks in gloop. Children enjoy making circle shapes with pom-poms and develop an understanding of comparative mathematical language. They listen, take turns and understand how to share. Children learn to manage their personal care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498116
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1044577
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	24
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Kingfisher Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP909319
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01732873678

Kingfisher Preschool established in 1989 and re-registered in 2016. It operates from 9am until 3pm on Monday to Friday during term time. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are eight members of staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager and the deputy hold early years degrees.

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.

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