

2J's Pre-school

MSCH Hall, The Strand, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1TT



Inspection date	29 June 2018
Previous inspection date	11 February 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

- The management team is passionate about the ongoing development of the nursery and improving outcomes for children. Managers have robust systems of evaluation which they use to continually develop the setting.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are offered exceptional support. The nursery has developed strong partnerships with local agencies to help ensure that children receive the support they need to progress in their learning.
- Parents talk highly of the nursery and the support that they are given by staff. Parents are provided with regular feedback about their children's progress.
- Staff are extremely attentive and caring, which helps children to settle very quickly and feel emotionally secure. All children and families are welcomed, respected and valued.
- The children develop an excellent knowledge of nature and the world around them. For instance, they enjoy learning about how to care for snails, observe their movement and draw images of them to display in the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not use all resources effectively to further extend children's interest and understanding of mathematics.
- The systems for monitoring the progress of different groups of children are not fully embedded.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the range of activities provided to help develop children's mathematical skills even further
- build further on the systems for comparing the progress made by particular groups of children to help ensure that all groups receive the support they need to increase the potential for them to achieve at the highest possible levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning indoors in all rooms and the impact that this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector met with the manager to look at a range of documentation, including policies and procedures, staff records, self-evaluation, recruitment and training and safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector talked to children and staff at appropriate times, including looking at children's records and planning.

Inspector

Nicola Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders have a good knowledge of the statutory requirements and have developed effective policies and procedures. They ensure that all staff have an excellent knowledge of how to implement these. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good understanding of how to protect the children in their care. Managers have developed robust systems for recruitment and induction. They have effective programmes of supervision which help to encourage all staff to reflect on their own practice. The managers work together with staff to identify their professional development needs and plan training to strengthen their skills. They have developed strong partnerships with local schools, and they work closely with them to ensure that children have a smooth transition.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The nursery has developed an effective key-person system and staff know their children very well. They have high expectations of all children and use their observations and assessments to plan appropriate next steps for each child's individual needs. Staff help children to develop their understanding of books and reading. For example, they encourage them to explore their individual interests when selecting books from the library bus. Children selected books about planets and used these to create their own solar system. Children are offered a wide range of opportunities, indoors and outdoors, to develop control of their bodies. For instance, children explore colours and textures as they prepare, manipulate and mould play dough using their hands and tools. Outside, children build their own large models using crates, materials and bricks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are happy and their behaviour is exemplary. Staff are consistent at managing behaviour and clearly communicate their boundaries and expectations. Children have exceptional social skills. They are incredibly confident and are excited to share their resources and activities with visitors. There is a strong emphasis on supporting the health and well-being of children. For example, staff work closely with families to ensure that children are offered nutritious and healthy meals and snacks. Staff are highly skilled at planning activities that value each child as an individual extremely well. For instance, children develop their sensory awareness with excitement and delight as they explore light and bubble tubes, materials, colours and textures in their sensory area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop the skills they need to prepare them for school. Young children have excellent listening skills. Older children are independent and confident. Children concentrate well on tasks and communicate effectively. For example, they enjoy self-registering when they arrive at nursery and they practise writing their names when they label their work.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468227
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1069719
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	2 J's Pre-School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905583
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2014
Telephone number	07842088646

2J's Pre-school registered in 2013 and is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm, school term time only. There are 12 members of staff, of whom 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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