

The Nursery at Canterbury College

Canterbury College, New Dover Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3AJ



Inspection date

9 July 2018

Previous inspection date

1 March 2016

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 and staff effectively evaluate their practice together. For example, they have regular meetings to discuss how well their plans motivate children to learn. They use the feedback to support their future practice and activity plans.
- Staff establish secure and trusting relationships with children. This helps children settle happily and confidently into their play. Children have positive levels of well-being.
- Staff support all children to develop their speaking and listening skills. For instance, they use simple signing with babies and ask older children thought-provoking questions.
- All children develop their early writing skills. For example, younger children give meaning to the marks they make and older children write simple words with confidence.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their creative skills. For example, they explore paint in interesting ways, such as using marbles and spray bottles.
- The manager closely monitors the consistency of care and learning that staff provide for children. For example, she observes them teach daily and provides staff with challenging targets to meet to develop their performance even further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most out of opportunities to encourage parents to share children's achievements from home.
- Staff do not always organise large-group activities effectively, to ensure that they fully engage and keep the interest of all children throughout.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the link between home and the nursery further, to help provide children with an even better consistency to their care and learning experiences
- review and improve the organisation of large-group activities to ensure that all children remain fully engaged and get the most out of their learning opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff interacting with children and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff and considered their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

All staff, including the manager, have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. The manager and staff attend a good range of beneficial training to keep their skills and knowledge up to date and to build on them further. For example, they have learnt different ways to help children to develop their communication skills. Staff establish good links with other early years professionals and they regularly share children's achievements with other settings that children attend. This helps provide children with a good consistent approach to their shared care and learning. Staff use additional funding effectively to support children's individual learning needs, such as purchasing additional resources to encourage their speaking skills. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow that help protect children's safety and welfare. They carry out thorough risk assessments and closely monitor any accidents. Staff deploy themselves well and adult-to-child ratios are met to help ensure all children are well supervised and remain safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff effectively monitor the progress of individual and different groups of children. This enables them to recognise any gaps in their development quickly. Staff provide children with good support to help close gaps. Staff effectively help children to prepare for their eventual move on to school. For example, children are independent, they choose their own play and find their own belongings confidently. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who enjoyed a story about a pirate, go on to make pirate treasure maps and investigate different maps from around the world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are polite and behave well, and know what is expected of them. Children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. They enjoy preparing their own nutritious snacks, such as cutting up plums. All children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they explore different ways they can move their bodies, as they enjoy daily exercise sessions, with jumping and stretching. Children learn about other people's similarities and differences in the wider world. For instance, they learn about the traditions of other cultures and festivals, such as Diwali.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children develop good mathematical skills. For instance, younger children confidently count as they play and older children are keen to complete simple sums. Children learn how to keep themselves safe, such as how to cross the road safely and how to remain safe in and around water.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127100
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1078026
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Canterbury College Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP910381
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2016
Telephone number	01227 811108

The Nursery at Canterbury College registered in 2002. It operates in the grounds of Canterbury College, in Canterbury, Kent. The nursery employs seven members of staff, six of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 or above. This includes one member of staff who holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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