

Little Cubs Nursery

Osborne House, 3-5 Portland Road, Hythe, kent CT21 6EG



Inspection date	31 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

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

The provision is good

- The manager ensures that staff have a secure and confident knowledge of how to identify and respond effectively to any concerns about a child's welfare. All staff attend regular safeguarding training to ensure that they are kept up to date with any changes.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are strong. Staff use various ways to engage and involve parents and carers effectively in the nursery and in their children's learning. Parents appreciate the good-quality care that their children receive.
- Overall, staff enhance children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, they clearly emphasise key words and successfully adapt their interactions to help children to develop good understanding and speaking skills.
- The managers support staff to keep their knowledge up to date. For example, staff access regular training, to help improve practice. They have a thorough and consistent understanding of managing children's behaviour. Effective strategies are in place and taught well to help promote children's positive behaviour and attitudes.
- All children make good progress in their learning from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently extend children's understanding of mathematical concepts, such as counting and size.
- At times, staff do not consistently support all children who speak English as an additional language effectively to help them to understand and develop their speaking skills.

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 challenge children consistently to count and to compare sizes
- extend the good opportunities to help and support all children who speak English as an additional language even more.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and children's activities, completed a joint observation with the manager and held discussions with her about children's progress and learning.
- The inspector held conversations with the manager, staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability checks and their qualifications, and sampled relevant policies and procedures.
- The inspector took into account the views of the parents during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff planning documentation and the children's assessment records.

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager effectively monitors individual children's progress and that of different groups of children, to close any emerging gaps in their development successfully. For example, she has effectively implemented strategies, such as some focused group activities in the children's preferred areas of play and exploration, to encourage all children to manage their own feelings and behaviour effectively. The manager accurately evaluates the quality of the nursery. She includes the views of parents, carers and children to help identify areas for further improvement. For example, the exchange of information between staff and parents and carers has been enhanced, to help provide children with a consistent approach to their development. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date and the manager continually monitors staff suitability effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of individual children's development and effectively plan for their next steps in learning with parents and carers. They skilfully use a wide range of resources and activities well to engage children at all times during the day. For instance, children enjoy exploring music and different movements during a group dance activity to help enhance their physical skills. Staff challenge children well to enhance their thinking skills. For example, they encourage children to consider the sounds fireworks make and how these can be represented as different movements within their dance.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff build on children's confidence and sense of belonging well. For example, they constantly praise children for their achievements. The key-person system works well and relationships between staff and children are strong. Staff are sensitive, provide stimulating experiences and are responsive to children's needs. Children are happy and settled in the welcoming environment staff provide. The environment is organised well to enable children to follow their interests, make choices and lead their own play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a good understanding of diversity beyond their immediate families. They enjoy exploring the environment, which includes positive cultural images and dual-language texts. Children develop the skills they need for their future learning and the move to school. For example, they learn about school routines and practise independent dressing with school uniforms in the school role-play area. Children gain a good understanding of their local community. They enjoy opportunities to explore the local environments, such as the beach and country parks, and benefit from visits from the local community warden who talks to the children about staying safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY535597
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10076697
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Fill, Kelly-Marie
Registered person unique reference number	RP535596
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01303 267 842

Little Cubs Nursery re-registered in 2016. It is located in Hythe, Kent. The nursery is open between 8am to 4pm daily, all year round. The nursery employs seven members of staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status and the manager holds a childcare qualification at level 4. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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