

Junior's Day Nursery

Bramley House, Hartley Dyke Business Centre, Hartley Road, Cranbrook,
Kent TN17 3QG



Inspection date	12 December 2018
Previous inspection date	17 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

This provision is good

- The new, well-qualified manager is an enthusiastic and ambitious leader. She works hard with her deputy to effectively share their high expectations with the dedicated staff team. They work well with parents to evaluate nursery practice and implement effective changes, which enhance the quality of care and early education offered.
- Children form strong emotional attachments with the kind and caring staff. They thoroughly enjoy their company and are eager for them to join in their play. Parents comment that the nursery is like a 'second home' and children are 'brilliantly supported' by the staff team.
- Children enjoy exploring the environment, which contains a wide range of motivating and challenging experiences. A well-considered mix of indoor and outdoor opportunities helps to ensure children are able to explore their own ideas. Children become confident and imaginative learners who make good progress in their learning.
- Staff have good relationships with parents. Effective information sharing helps to support children's learning and care needs well. This ensures a consistent approach to meeting children's needs.
- Staff are adapting to new daily routines. On occasions, the routine becomes slightly chaotic and children's care needs are not as effectively supported.
- Staff are still adapting to a newly introduced system for assessing children's progress to further support children's development as precisely as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review daily routines to ensure that all children are engaged and their care and learning needs are effectively supported at all times
- support staff to refine their use of the new system of observation and assessment to enable them to plan more precisely for the next steps in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed interactions between the staff and children in the inside space and outdoor environment.
- The inspector viewed a range of developmental records and spoke to key staff about children's progression.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including staff records, monitoring information and policies.
- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.

Inspector
Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team works well to ensure all staff have a good understanding of their role and the processes and procedures to follow to keep children safe. The management team effectively monitors staff practice. Staff are supported to reflect on and enhance their good skills. Regular meetings and training opportunities help staff to implement positive changes to their practice. The management team effectively evaluates the nursery practice. They consider what works well and target any areas for improvement. For example, the manager worked with staff to consider how children's individual needs are supported across the nursery. This led to staff attending focused training, which helped them to further develop their skills. Knowledge gained from training is cascaded to all staff to help ensure that the whole staff team tailor the support given to children. This helps to ensure all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities are given further opportunities to reach their full potential.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are skilled teachers. They have a good understanding of how children learn and of their individual abilities. Staff effectively recognise children's interests and use these to create opportunities, which enables them to develop and practise new skills. For example, babies show excitement and curiosity as they use their whole bodies to explore foam. Staff extend the babies exploration as they repeat the familiar sounds the babies make in their play. Older children confidently use their imaginations and creative skills to create clay models. They show well develop physical skills as they use tools to cut and shape the clay. Children are totally engaged and enjoy sharing their creations with staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff maintain a safe and secure environment. They are skilled at offering advice and using simple questions and techniques to help children to consider how to manage their own behaviours. For example, staff are consistently calm and respectful. They work to ensure that children develop a good understanding of the simple rules in place within the nursery. Staff work effectively to help children to learn to think about their own self-care and safety, while enabling them to take well managed risks. For example, children work well together to use long sticks to try to retrieve a hoop stuck in a tree. With staff support children take turns well. They cheer their friends as they try to reach high up into the tree. When children finish playing they comment that they have laid their long stick down 'safely'. Staff are aware of the importance of offering daily outdoor experiences and healthy snacks and meals. This helps to support children's good health.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen, independent learners who practise the skills they need to support their future learning and move to school. For example, from a young age children learn to make choices in their play. They develop lifelong skills, such as aspects of self-care. For example, babies show developing skills as they start to feed themselves and drink from cups. Older children confidently use cutlery to eat at meal times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368488
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10087082
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	155
Name of registered person	Junior Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP528751
Date of previous inspection	17 October 2014
Telephone number	01580 713033

Junior's Day Nursery registered in 2008. It is located in Cranbrook, Kent. The setting employs 30 members of staff. The manager and two other staff hold early years degrees and one staff member has qualified teacher status. Sixteen other staff hold early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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