

Cherubs Pre School

Linton Village Hall, Linton Hill, Linton, MAIDSTONE, Kent ME17 4AW



Inspection date	1 February 2019
Previous inspection date	3 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The leadership of the provision is inspirational. All staff work together as a cohesive, efficient team and their individual talent and expertise are recognised and celebrated. Managers very successfully ensure that all staff have opportunities to continually enrich their skills.
- Children develop excellent social skills and spend much of their time laughing with their friends and with staff. Staff make superb use of humour, enabling children to try new things without any fear of failure. This supports children to gain valuable learning as they discover through repeated trial and error.
- Children are extremely motivated learners. They confidently choose activities from the huge selection available and make superb progress in all areas of their development. For example, a skilfully planned printing activity very successfully captures children's interest. They are fascinated as they explore the textures produced by different vegetables, and show a confident knowledge of how to mix different colours.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Parents express tremendous praise and gratitude to the staff for the support they offer to children and the whole family. Parents feel that their children are prepared as well as possible for their move to school.
- Staff have a very strong commitment to self-evaluation and ongoing improvement to the overall quality of the service, as well as to the support for individual children. For example, recent training and work with specialist teachers has given them the skills to identify triggers and signs to watch out for in relation to children's mental health.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend the opportunities for children to explore nature as part of their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interaction of staff and children, and undertook a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector viewed a selection of relevant documentation.

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The organisation of the pre-school is seamless. All staff are fully involved in creating a happy, busy and very friendly environment where children flourish. Highly effective relationships with other professionals, including staff at the local school, support staff to identify and meet children's unique needs. Staff make superb use of regular opportunities to extend their knowledge. For example, training focused on teaching outdoors has helped staff to provide rich learning experiences in the garden. In addition, work is taking place to make use of a piece of land adjoining the premises and build on children's fascination with nature. Safeguarding is effective. The member of staff with lead responsibility for safeguarding has a thorough knowledge of all aspects of her role, and all members of the team understand the procedures to follow to protect children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Wherever children choose to play, and whichever member of staff they approach, they receive the same excellent interaction and support. Staff very skilfully build on children's interests and existing knowledge to help them reach their full potential. For example, they support a child who is able to confidently name a vast array of dinosaurs, to learn about which are carnivores and which are herbivores. In addition, children very excitedly run to the trays in the garden to discover if the weather overnight was cold enough to freeze water in the planting trays. They use wonderful language as they handle the small discs of ice, such as 'transparent' and 'peculiar'. Children thoroughly enjoy creative pursuits and concentrate deeply to produce highly individual artwork and models. For example, a child speaks proudly of their boat creation, pointing out the 'pole for the sails' and the explaining where the sailors sleep.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave exceptionally well and are incredibly kind and caring. They have manners that show maturity beyond their years, for example regularly checking on the well-being of visitors. They use calming voices as they find opportunities to help their friends, following the excellent role modelling of staff. For example, when a child asks what time his parent is coming to collect him, the two children playing alongside him are quick to reassure him and make jokes to lift his spirits. Children are very independent in their self-care and take a very active role tidying up toys and cleaning tables ready for lunch.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children have tremendous fun at the pre-school and make rapid progress in their learning and development, including those with special educational needs. Children's high levels of academic achievement, along with their confidence, prepare them exceptionally well for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY246080
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10073140
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Fox, Cindy Jo
Registered person unique reference number	RP513766
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2016
Telephone number	07947776140

Cherubs Pre School registered in 2003. The pre-school is open during term time from 9am to 3pm on weekdays and offers morning, afternoon and all-day sessions. There are five staff. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 6, one holds level 5, and three hold level 3. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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