

GG's Pitstop Playschool

Methodist Church, Maidstone ME16 8SL



Inspection date	15 March 2019
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

This provision is good

- Children are polite and behave well. They confidently follow the rules and boundaries.
- The manager closely monitors the quality of care and teaching that staff provide children. For instance, she regularly observes them interacting with children and provides them with helpful advice to support their future performance. This helps to ensure that children remain interested to learn and make good progress.
- Staff establish positive relationships with parents and keep them fully involved in their children's learning. For example, they share activity ideas with them to try at home together with their children, such as recognising a letter of the alphabet.
- Children develop good physical skills. For example, they climb and balance on trees and larger equipment on regular trips to the park.
- There are good opportunities for children to develop good mathematical skills as they play. For instance, they confidently recognise and order numbers during lotto games.
- Children are imaginative. They enjoy a variety of role-play activities. For example, they dress up as story characters and become pirates.
- At times, staff do not always encourage and support children's ongoing independence skills in order to help their development.
- Staff do not make the most of ways to support children to develop their skills and interest in early writing to help prepare them for their eventual move to school more extensively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve children's opportunities to be more independent and complete their own tasks
- extend children's opportunities to develop their early writing skills to help them prepare for their eventual move to school even further.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager and staff effectively evaluate their practice together. They hold discussions at the end of each day to review how well the activities engaged children. They use their findings to support their future activity plans. This helps to ensure children remain interested in their learning experiences. All staff are keen to build on their skills and knowledge even further. They attend regular training that is beneficial to their practice. For instance, they have learnt about the different ways to support children to develop good communication skills, such as using visual prompts. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare. This includes knowing who to contact to seek advice. Staff teach children how to be safe. For example, they learn about how to cross the road safely.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor and track the progress of individual and specific groups of children. This enables them to promptly identify any gaps in their development. Staff provide children with good support to help close gaps and catch up in their learning. Staff liaise with other staff at settings children also attend to help provide a good, consistent approach to their shared care and learning. For example, they regularly share children's achievements. Staff effectively support children to prepare for their eventual move to school. For example, children recognise simple words with confidence. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who enjoy a book about insects, go on to carry out a bug hunt and learn about the different types of insects they can find.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff get to know children and their individual personalities well. Children have a good sense of belonging and positive levels of well-being and self-esteem. They develop good social skills and build meaningful friendships. For example, they play happily together during group activities. Children gain a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. For instance, they discuss the importance of washing away germs before eating. Children develop a good understanding of other people's similarities and differences. For example, they learn about different religious beliefs, such as the Muslim faith.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their individual starting points. Children gain good skills to support their future learning. Children are confident to freely express themselves and develop good creative skills. For example, they are keen to explore paint in interesting ways, such as using marbles and bubbles. Children are keen to communicate their ideas and answer good, thought-provoking questions with confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY544561
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10093931
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	GG's Pitstop Playschool Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP544559
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07724747254

GG's Pitstop Playschool registered in 2017. It is located in a church hall in Maidstone, Kent. The setting is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 3pm and Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am to midday during term time only. It receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs four members of staff, all of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 2 or above. This includes one member of staff who has a level 5 qualification.

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