

Benenden Pre-School

St. Georges Hall, The Street, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4DB



Inspection date	9 May 2019
Previous inspection date	23 June 2015

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

- Extremely dedicated and motivated leaders remain ambitious and forward-thinking. Their highly targeted plans for improvement and staff professional development continue to drive the outstanding practice. They listen and react positively to the views of staff, parents and children.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They demonstrate exceptional patience and motivation to learn. They are extremely confident and sociable as they ask staff questions and show genuine interest in activities.
- Inspirational leaders use highly effective systems for monitoring and evaluating the progress children make within the nursery. Excellent teaching helps all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), to develop skills rapidly and to be ready for their future learning.
- A wealth of innovative strategies ensures partnerships with parents are excellent. For example, parents and grandparents are welcomed into the pre-school to share their skills. Parents comment on excellent opportunities to share their children's experiences at the pre-school, as well as knowing how to continue their children's learning at home.
- The pre-school has focused exceptionally well on promoting children's physical skills and health. For example, children demonstrate excellent physical abilities as they competently and skilfully complete a challenging obstacle course.
- All staff have excellent knowledge of how to keep children safe. They are extremely vigilant about how to ensure all children know how to keep themselves safe at pre-school and in the wider community.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement the already excellent plans to further strengthen children's contribution to a sustainable environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning indoors and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the provider, and spoke with all staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views by speaking with them and reading their written comments.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including records of children's progress, evidence of staff suitability, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent understanding of how to identify and report any concerns they may have about a child's welfare. The manager ensures the well-qualified staff continue their professional development to support the delivery of a highly successful and relevant curriculum. For example, following training, the manager plans to increase children's contribution to a sustainable environment, such as by composting. Excellent teamwork and sharing of good practice ensure superb teaching and increased staff confidence. Leaders work exceptionally well with other professionals and share high-quality information with other settings children attend. Leaders make excellent use of additional funding to narrow any differences in children's progress and help them all achieve their potential.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

All staff have a deep understanding of the individual learning needs of children. They closely observe what children are doing and saying, and successfully use this information to plan exciting and stimulating activities. Children demonstrate excellent communication and language skills which are superbly supported by staff, who fully engage and interact with them in meaningful ways. For example, they expertly join in child-led play to advance children's vocabulary and social skills. Children thoroughly enjoy exciting activities that enrich their life experience, such as meeting lambs that visit from the local farm, learning yoga or developing their physical skills in multi-sports sessions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Extremely nurturing and caring relationships develop between all staff, children and parents. Staff are superb role models for children's positive and polite behaviour. Children confidently communicate their emotional and physical needs. They demonstrate tremendous confidence when trying new activities and are self-motivated to experiment with new ways of doing things. For example, they expertly calculate risks during outdoor play, such as when they balance across a wobbly plank. Staff teach children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and inspire them to be physically active. For example, they learn that carbohydrates are eaten as part of a balanced meal and they enjoy planting and growing their own vegetables, such as potatoes. Staff provide an exceptional range of resources, including dual-language books that help children learn to value differences and similarities between themselves and others in the wider community.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children display exceptional independence skills. For example, they skilfully dress themselves in 'splash suits' before going outside. They spontaneously point out letters and numbers around them and relate them to what they already know. For example, they think about words that start with the same letter or they confidently count on from a number up to 20. Children make strong friendships and learn to be kind. They have an excellent understanding of the needs of others, including other living things. For example, they are patient and quiet when taking turns to feed lambs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127014
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10104182
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	17
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Benenden Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904544
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2015
Telephone number	01580 241 137

Benenden Pre-School registered in 1967 and is managed by a parent management committee. It is located in Benenden, Kent. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate qualifications from level 3 to level 6. The manager has qualified teacher status and early years professional status. The pre-school is open from Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 9am until 3.15pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 9am until midday on Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

