

# Castle Hill Village Nursery

The Village Sure Start Children's Centre, Denmark Street, Folkestone  
CT19 6EQ



<b>Inspection date</b>	10 July 2019
Previous inspection date	19 January 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	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

- Children and babies are full of smiles and are extremely happy and confident. They have excellent opportunities to explore, experience new things and make outstanding progress in their learning.
- The management team is highly dedicated in making further improvements. It carefully reflects on and evaluates all aspects of the provision, and accurately identifies areas for improvement. These are acted on swiftly to maintain the high-quality provision, which continues to improve. The management team is now exploring how to build even further on the excellent opportunities children have to reflect on their own learning.
- Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an extremely secure understanding of how to identify and act on concerns about children's welfare.
- The management team demonstrates very high expectations of the staff team and provides highly effective support and performance management. Staff undertake focused training and continue to develop their knowledge, skills and interests. As a result, they are knowledgeable and keen to continuously improve.
- Staff work very closely with the local school that the children move on to, other professionals and providers. This helps to ensure the excellent provision for children and their families is of consistently high quality.
- The outside area is exceptional and worthy of being shared with others. It offers a wide range of excellent learning opportunities in all areas and for all ages. Children particularly enjoy opportunities to construct on a large scale.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to review and enhance the excellent group activities in which children participate, to evaluate their own learning.

### Inspection activities

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

### Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Every child is given excellent support to reach their full potential and this is robustly monitored. This means that any gaps in learning are swiftly identified and addressed. The special educational needs coordinator is completely dedicated to ensuring that no child gets left behind in their learning and development. She is highly organised and seeks as much support from outside professionals as children need. Safeguarding is effective. The manager responds to potential safeguarding issues with rigour to ensure that children are protected. Staff have a deep understanding of their responsibility to report concerns, as well as wider safeguarding issues. Staff use innovative ways to keep parents up to date about their children's learning and development. Parents hold the nursery in high regard and commend the staff on their loving and caring nature. Additional funding is used exceptionally well to help children make excellent progress both at nursery and to support children's learning at home. For example, children enjoy books and games organised in a lending library to help enhance their listening and attention skills.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff's own enthusiasm and motivating approach sustain children's focus exceptionally well. They skilfully intervene at opportune moments to extend children's knowledge. For example, staff encourage children to compare the characteristics of different dinosaurs and consider what each species likes to eat. They teach children about the life cycle of dinosaurs and children are incredibly excited to hunt in the garden for the hidden 'dinosaur eggs'. Children creatively decorate their eggs and are inspired by pictures they see in books about dinosaurs. Staff have an extremely sharp focus on helping all children acquire and extend their communication and language skills. They provide excellent commentary, emphasising key words and introducing new vocabulary as children play.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The key-person system is highly effective and children's physical and emotional well-being are given the highest priority. Children have a strong sense of belonging and behave remarkably well. Children move through the different rooms as they grow and learn. These transitions are given high priority and consideration. Therefore, children make the change with ease and settle extremely quickly. Children are fully encouraged to lead a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy a wealth of physical activities, such as baby yoga and physical challenges they create themselves using large movable parts in the garden. They are consistently reminded about healthy food choices through conversations and their play. Children have an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe and use this knowledge exceptionally well when building large block constructions.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children and babies are very well equipped with the skills required for future learning and especially well prepared for school. Children use their imaginations exceptionally well and negotiate ideas and views within their extremely rich play experiences. They lead their own play with confidence and most of all have fun.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY371457
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	10108683
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	79
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	160
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Castle Hill Village Nursery (Community Interest Company)
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP903395
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	19 January 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01303 226364

Castle Hill Village Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery receives funding to provide free nursery education for children aged two, three and four. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm, five days a week, for 49 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 22 members of staff, 18 of whom hold recognised childcare qualifications. Three of the staff holds qualified teacher status.

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