

# Hemsley House Day Nursery

7 Terrace Road, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8HU



<b>Inspection date</b>	24 July 2019
Previous inspection date	15 December 2014

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

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children are happy and well settled in this welcoming nursery. Staff are kind, caring and respond perfectly to children's individual needs. Children build excellent bonds with the nurturing staff and these help to develop their emotional well-being incredibly well.
- Children's communication and language skills are given a high priority. Staff engage older children in regular meaningful conversations. Staff working with babies repeat and reinforce new words. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well.
- The management team accurately evaluates the quality of the nursery. It includes the views of parents and staff to help identify areas for further improvement. For example, mealtimes have been successfully enhanced to provide children with a range of very healthy meals in an inviting, purposeful and social dining area.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff use various ways to engage and involve parents effectively in their children's learning. Parents value the good-quality care their children receive.
- All children make good progress in their learning from their individual starting points.
- At times, the monitoring of staff practice does not precisely identify the support they need to help them raise the quality of their teaching to a higher level.
- Staff do not give the same consideration to challenging children's physical skills as they do to other areas of their learning and development.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the existing monitoring of staff practice to precisely tailor the support given to them, to help raise the quality of teaching to a higher level
- develop the already good opportunities children have to enhance their physical skills, to challenge and stimulate their natural interest in climbing even further.

### 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 checked evidence of staff suitability checks and their qualifications, and sampled relevant policies and procedures.
- The inspector took into account the views of the parents during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff planning documentation and the children's assessment records.

#### Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager monitors individual children's progress and that of different groups of children effectively, to close any emerging gaps in their development successfully. For example, she has implemented strategies effectively to enhance children's communication and language skills, particularly for children who speak English as an additional language. Overall, managers support staff effectively. For example, they provide good induction procedures and a newly introduced system to support staff well-being. Staff develop their skills, for example through training. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date and are fully aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare.

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

Staff gather detailed information from parents about children's interests and development from home. They use this well to build on children's learning experiences. For example, children enjoy investigating sand and shells and explore their senses effectively throughout their play. Staff extend this interest well, such as by introducing tweezers and different-sized containers for children to fill and create with the sand. Staff teach mathematics well. For example, they engage the children in comparing sizes and counting objects, as well as exploring concepts such as full and empty within their play experiences.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The staff skilfully develop children's confidence and promote their sharing, turn taking and kindness incredibly well. Children follow the positive examples set by staff who, for example, take time to explain carefully why it is kind to share toys and equipment. The key-person system is highly effective. Staff develop very strong partnerships with parents and exchange information about learning and development. Together they plan how and when to make changes at critical points in children's development, such as the transition from nappies to potty, or moving from the baby rooms to toddler rooms. This helps to make these as smooth as possible, maintaining children's high levels of confidence. Children and parents share aspects of their home lives and different cultures during sessions, helping children to feel highly valued. For instance, children enjoy listening and dancing to Spanish music. Children develop an excellent understanding of diversity beyond their immediate family.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy looking at books, listening to well-read stories and singing songs. They also engage in creative activities, giving meaning to marks that they make. This helps to enhance their early literacy and creative development well.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY260069
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	10108547
<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 - 3
<b>Total number of places</b>	34
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	34
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Hemsley House Childcare Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP905984
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 December 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01622 677 702

Hemsley House Day Nursery is an established nursery that first registered in 1984 and re-registered under new ownership in 2003. It provides full-day care on five days a week, all year round, for children up to two and a half years of age. It operates from a large Victorian house, located near Maidstone town centre. the nursery is in receipt of funding for two-year-olds. There are five employed staff and three bank staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 6 and all others hold a current early years qualification.

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