

Inspection of Brambles Nursery School

Blossom Childrens Centre, Owen Square, Deal, Kent CT14 7TL

Inspection date: 13 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enter the nursery with confidence and excitement. They happily join in with the range of interesting activities which have been planned and set up for them. Staff carefully position themselves so that they can provide appropriate support to children. Children happily approach adults and engage in meaningful conversations with them. This means that children feel safe and secure in their surroundings.

The environment is well presented and set up with a range of exciting resources that children can easily access independently. The outdoor environment provides opportunities for children to explore all areas of learning and is successfully organised. However, although the curriculum is generally well planned, the youngest children do not consistently have their needs fully met. For instance, on occasions they lack motivation and interest in their learning. Children gain further outdoor experiences. For example, they visit the nursery's allotment and grow their own fruit and vegetables, and children take them back to the nursery to enjoy.

Parents speak very highly of the nursery. They feel that their children are well looked after and they, as parents, are very well supported. Parents are kept up to date about their children's progress, special events and the nursery's policies, for instance through an online system.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff provide children with rich experiences and skills that will help them to succeed later on in life. The nursery provides an abundance of extra activities for children to help support their understanding of diversity and what makes them unique. For example, all children have the opportunity to participate in baby ballet and Spanish lessons.
- Children show respect to each other by listening and responding appropriately. They respond particularly well to requests from adults. For instance, they all help to tidy up without being prompted or reminded when they hear the tidy-up song being played.
- The key-person system is exceptionally well established. Staff form excellent relationships with parents and provide help and support to access additional services when needed.
- Leaders ensure that the nursery engages very effectively with the local community. This helps children to gain valuable experiences about people and families outside of their own. For example, they recently took part in a Christmas tree festival at a local church. Parents were encouraged to take their children to see the tree that the children had decorated.
- Staff model clear spoken language. They read to children with excitement and

children respond positively to this by laughing and giggling.

- Staff encourage children to make healthy lifestyle choices. The nursery works particularly hard with parents to ensure that children access a healthy, well-balanced diet. For instance, parents are invited to the nursery to share a Valentine's lunch with their loved one. Parents and children work together to create a healthy lunch that they share with each other.
- Staff deliver carefully planned group sessions. However, at times, leaders do not make the best possible use of their staff monitoring. They do not always accurately evaluate the quality of the curriculum to help ensure teaching is consistently effective.
- Staff give a high priority to ensuring that children are able to express their feelings. The nursery seeks excellent support from external agencies to ensure that children's emotional literacy is fully recognised and supported.
- Leaders have established particularly strong links with the local school and children's centre, which provide good opportunities to share information and support children's specific needs.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are particularly well cared for. The nursery uses additional funding very effectively. For example, it has recently flattened the garden so that this space is now accessible to all children, including those with additional physical needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good understanding of, and are able to recognise, the signs that indicate that a child may be at risk of harm. Staff know the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child or an adult in the nursery. All staff have completed relevant training in safeguarding and know who the designated lead practitioner is within the setting. The management team has robust recruitment procedures in place. It makes sure that staff undergo checks to help ensure that they are suitable for their roles and responsibilities.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the organisation of planning, particularly for younger children to help them to sustain high levels of concentration and interest in their learning
- build on the staff monitoring and evaluation of the curriculum to help maintain consistently high standards of teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432414
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10128626
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 to 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Bramble, Jacqueline Louise
Registered person unique reference number	RP513755
Telephone number	01304 375355
Date of previous inspection	26 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

Brambles Nursery School registered in 2011. It operates from rooms within the Blossoms Children's Centre in Deal, Kent. There are 16 members of staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3 or above. One member of staff holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens on Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, for most of the year. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nicola Pochin

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with a senior member of staff.
- The inspector considered the views of parents.
- The inspector observed children and spoke to them at appropriate times.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of suitability checks.
- The deputy manager and the inspector conducted a learning walk.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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