

# Inspection of Woodstock House Day Nursery

Woodstock House, Winch Road, Kent Science Park, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8EF

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Inspection date: 1 June 2022

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## **Overall effectiveness**

## **Outstanding**

The quality of education

**Outstanding**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Outstanding**

Personal development

**Outstanding**

Leadership and management

**Outstanding**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is outstanding**

Children are extremely happy and settled. They thrive in the nurturing and homely environment offered at the nursery. For instance, babies are gently rocked to sleep by staff who know their home routines exceptionally well. Children consistently demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in the harmonious and relaxed atmosphere.

Children's behaviour across the setting is fantastic. They are deeply engaged in their learning and play together. For example, children work collaboratively as they share and take turns with different resources as they explore making marks with paint. They are highly motivated and eager to join in with their friends.

Children make excellent progress from their starting points. Staff have high expectations for all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). For example, additional funding is used to purchase specialist equipment to ensure that the environment is fully inclusive. Children make rapid progress in their learning and development that ensures that they are superbly prepared for the next stages in their learning.

Children learn exceptionally well to manage their own risk. For instance, they show great skill and confidence as they use real tools, such as hammers and nails. Children have high levels of maturity for their age. They develop outstanding knowledge and skills across the seven areas of the early years foundation stage.

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

- Staff know their key children extremely well. They plan an excellent curriculum that excites and engages the children exceptionally well. For example, children enjoy a weekly 'science club'. Their knowledge and experiences build over time as they learn and use an extensive vocabulary relating to electricity. Children benefit hugely from the many extra-curricular activities that they are offered at the nursery.
- Children have outstanding opportunities to develop their physical skills inside and outside across the setting. For instance, children run freely and climb outside in the garden as they learn to negotiate space safely. Babies successfully learn how to take risk as they mount carpeted stairs to reach the 'reading nook' on the first floor. This has a remarkable impact on their physical and mental health as they learn to live active and healthy lifestyles.
- Children are extremely confident and capable of managing their own behaviour across the nursery. They consistently demonstrate an understanding of why rules are in place. For example, staff support children to independently use a 'walkie-talkie' while playing in the outside cabin. They communicate with staff

inside to let them know they are ready to come in. Children develop a clear understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

- Parents feel exceptionally well supported and involved in their children's learning. For example, staff share daily updates via an online app that gives parents instant access to their child's day at nursery. Parents overwhelmingly share positive feedback about highly effective levels of communication they receive from staff, leaders and managers. There is an extremely positive and respectful culture that fosters strong working relationships between staff and parents.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are remarkably well supported. The environment is extremely well planned to ensure that they have access to resources in their home language. For instance, staff regularly share nursery rhymes and books in various languages. They use key words from home and flash cards to support children's communication skills. The environment is inclusive and celebrates the diversity of families beyond the nursery regularly.
- Leadership at the nursery is inspirational. Leaders and managers have created a passionate and dedicated staff team who truly all share the same vision and ethos. For instance, staff are given huge amounts of autonomy as they manage their own budgets and implement positive changes to the environment. They carry out their own research to continually improve their knowledge and the outcomes for children. Staff well-being is very high across the nursery.
- Leaders have a secure understanding of the needs of children with SEND and work exceptionally well with other professionals. For example, referrals are made swiftly to ensure that funding is secured and children have access to support from specialist teachers. Staff work closely to implement targeted interventions that ensure that excellent progress is made across the curriculum.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and managers have a very clear understanding of their duty and responsibilities to protect children from harm. They have implemented thorough recruitment processes that ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. There are robust induction plans in place for all new staff. Leaders and managers deliver highly effective safeguarding training to make certain that all staff understanding their responsibilities and duty to safeguard children.

Staff have an excellent working knowledge of all safeguarding issues, including wider issues such as radicalisation and female genital mutilation. They understand policies and procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children or staff, including the company's whistle-blowing policy.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2532361
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	10233422
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	65
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	124
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Woodstock House Day Nursery Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2532360
<b>Telephone number</b>	01795 608068
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Woodstock House Day Nursery registered in 2019. It operates in Sittingbourne, Kent. The setting cares for children from Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm, all year around. The setting currently employs 21 members of staff, 18 of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3 or above. This includes one member of staff who has qualified teacher status.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Nicky Webb

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.

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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