

Inspection of The John Wallis Nursery

John Wallis C Of E Academy, Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

Inspection date: 17 June 2022

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

The John Wallis Nursery is a wonderful place for children to learn and have fun. The children enjoy a stimulating, caring and secure environment. Every member of staff is committed to assisting each child in achieving their full potential, regardless of their starting point.

Children enter the nursery with smiles on their faces. They settle down to the activities quickly and remain focused for extremely long periods of time. On the unusually hot day of the inspection, exciting experiences included splashing and laughing with friends in the paddling pool and exploring bugs frozen in ice.

Children behave extremely well, always ready with a please or thank you. They are able to help each other follow the rules and take turns during activities. For example, younger children hand out snacks to their friends. Adults are wonderful role models. This was seen in their flexibility to support each other throughout the day, giving children a clear message of how to be kind and to respect others. Children begin to learn how to resolve conflicts for themselves and, as a result, the nursery is a harmonious and happy place.

Parents and carers say that their children thrive and that the staff 'go above and beyond' to ensure that children are helped to succeed. They value the extremely high expectations staff have of children and the quality time they spend getting to know everyone. Staff have exceptional knowledge around how to best support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities to take a full part in learning, so they can achieve as highly as others.

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

- The manager and staff understand the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on children's personal and social development. They are extremely successful in supporting turn taking and building friendships. For example, they very skilfully intervened to resolve a dispute, encouraging children to take turns pouring from the teapots during a fruit-tea and water-play activity.
- Communication and language are strengths of the nursery. Adults skilfully support children to communicate in a range of ways, such as through sign language and pictures. Well-chosen books are used to spark children's imagination. Puppets, props and musical instruments significantly enhance children's enjoyment and learning as they act out the stories that are read to them.
- Staff are positive role models. They are kind, caring and form secure attachments with children. During activities, staff get down to the children's level and actively engage and play alongside them. For example, when children are

role playing in the home corner, staff extend their learning and imaginative play while they get 'pizza' ready for dinner.

- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff know all children and their families extremely well. Parents speak positively about the manager and staff and the high level of care provided for their children. Partnerships with other professionals involved in children's care, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are excellently maintained.
- Staff know the curriculum in detail and understand what learning individual children need to do next. They present new learning skilfully and give children precise and clear explanations. For example, the younger children were painting portraits of their friends and looking carefully at one another's faces saying 'You have brown eyes but I have blue.'
- The new baby room has added a wonderful dimension to an already successful nursery. Parents state that staff listen and act on the ever-changing needs of their babies.
- Babies and younger children spend time immersed in a communication-rich environment, where they hear songs, stories and rhymes. They demonstrate very high levels of concentration and listening during song time. For example, they repeat the actions in 'If you're happy and you know it'. All children join in with actions supported skilfully by nurturing and sensitive staff.
- The pre-school children have a weekly football session and teachers from the academy come and teach French and PE sessions during the week. The children show visitors their football skills in the large playground. Parents say that the strong links with the academy help to form a smooth transition to school for their children.
- The manager implements effective strategies, such as supervision and termly staff meetings, to ensure they are meeting the needs of all children and planning an exciting curriculum. She has a clear and precise vision for the nursery and strives for excellence throughout.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is a strong culture of safeguarding. All staff receive training and regular safeguarding updates. The manager uses various techniques to keep staff alert to safeguarding updates. She can often be found in the classrooms with her 'fishbowl full of questions' to test that safeguarding knowledge is secure. All staff know what signs to look for if they have concerns about a child and what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. The manager seeks advice early from other agencies to ensure that children are kept safe. She makes sure that vulnerable children and families receive the support they need. The manager keeps up to date with local initiatives to support parents and meets with the academy safeguarding team every week. Parents say that their children are safe and happy.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2573689
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10239528
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	The John Wallis Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	2573688
Telephone number	01233 652627
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The John Wallis Nursery registered in 2020. It operates from The John Wallis Academy in Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent. It is open from 8am to 5pm each weekday during term time. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 14 members of staff, all of whom hold a level 3 childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Gunne

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the pre-school 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 her evaluation of the nursery.
- The manager and the inspector had a learning walk together and discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- The manager and the inspector carried out joint observations and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The manager and staff were asked questions throughout the inspection, to establish their understanding of how to safeguard children and how they assess and plan for children's learning.
- Interactions between the staff and children were observed during the inspection.
- Samples of documentation, including staff qualifications and evidence of paediatric first-aid training were looked at during the inspection.
- The special educational needs coordinator spent time with the inspector to share the impact of her role on the progress children were making throughout 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

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 <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022