

Inspection of Kindergarten Kids Ltd

102 Albert Street, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1HT

Inspection date: 23 March 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and settled in this nursery. They develop strong bonds with staff, which successfully promotes their emotional well-being and helps them to feel safe and secure. Children's behaviour is good, and the staff act as positive role models. They encourage children to use their manners, and children are learning how to share and take turns with each other.

Children freely access a wide range of exciting and stimulating activities that generally promote their learning well. Babies explore and experiment during their self-selected activities. They watch intently as they roll different-sized toy cars down a ramp. Toddlers manipulate dough as they stretch, knead and pull it into the desired shape, making prints with other objects on the dough. This extends their concentration and helps strengthen their hand and finger muscles. Older children experiment, adding weights to their boat creations in water to learn about floating and sinking. Staff give clear explanations to extend children's knowledge and understanding effectively.

Children are very familiar with the routines and respond well to instructions and guidance given to them. This is because staff are consistent in providing children with clear instructions and boundaries throughout the day. For example, children know to thoroughly wash their hands before meals and snacks and older children remember to turn off the light when they finish in the toilet.

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

- Staff implement a curriculum that follows children's interests. They gather information from parents during settling-in sessions about what children already know and can do. Staff use this information to plan activities that meet the needs of the children. They complete observations and assessments on children and share these with parents.
- Staff encourage children's mathematical development effectively. Children regularly use mathematical language in their play. They confidently count and identify numbers in sequence. Staff challenge children to identify and understand the concepts of weight and length.
- Children are supported to develop a love of reading. For example, they enjoy exploring books independently and with their friends, as well as listening to stories read by staff. They are captivated by the expressions and actions staff use while they tell exciting stories. Generally, children access good opportunities to enhance their literacy skills. However, some opportunities for older children to practise their early writing skills are not promoted as well. For example, staff do not ensure that children use an effective pencil grip, and there are some inconsistencies in the teaching of letters and sounds.

- Staff provide children and babies with experiences to enhance their physical development. Children show a love for the outdoors as they carefully navigate across an obstacle course they created with large loose parts. Babies delight as they successfully mount the steps on small climbing equipment and go safely down the slide. This supports children to develop core strength in their bodies.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents appreciate the care and attention their children receive and the way staff precisely meet their children's individual needs. They benefit from being involved in parent workshops about the nursery's curriculum and regular updates on their children's learning. This keeps parents up to date on their children's development and how to support them with their learning at home.
- Regular self-evaluation and effective teamwork contribute to a well-organised provision. There are good opportunities for the staff team to work together, evaluate and drive improvements. Recent improvements to the organisation of the nursery means that older children are effectively prepared for their transition to school, and babies have a quiet area to relax in a home-from-home environment.
- Children benefit from the focus that staff place on their communication and language skills. Staff narrate as children play and clearly emphasise keywords in their interactions. All children make very good progress in their speaking skills, including those who speak English as an additional language. However, information about children's background and heritage is not always explored as effectively as possible. Children learn about a range of cultural events, but these are not targeted well to reflect and value the family backgrounds of those taking part.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. The manager effectively deploys staff to ensure that children are kept safe. They know the signs and symptoms that may indicate children are at risk of harm or abuse. The manager ensures staff complete regular child protection training and they cover different aspects of safeguarding during team meetings. This helps staff to remain vigilant to any changes in children's behaviour or family situation. Staff understand the dangers and risks to children from radicalisation or extremist behaviour.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide support for staff to help develop their knowledge and understanding of how to promote children's early literacy skills more effectively

- strengthen arrangements to gather and use information about children's background and heritage to be able to reflect these positively in their learning opportunities and enhance children's self-identity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313721
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10280621
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Kindergarten Kids Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525809
Telephone number	01227 772 200
Date of previous inspection	31 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Kindergarten Kids Ltd registered in 2002. It is located in Whitstable, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.15am until 6.30pm, all year round. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 11 members of staff, nine of which have early years qualifications that range from level 2 to level 5.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Parents, staff and children shared their views with the inspector.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity and evaluated its effectiveness together.

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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