

Inspection of Enchanted Wood Preschool

34 Standard Road, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 8DP

Inspection date: 3 May 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are inspired and highly motivated to learn as they fully immerse themselves in the wonderful experiences staff provide at this exceptional pre-school. They access a meticulously well designed curriculum that managers have created to ensure every child makes the best progress in their learning and development. Staff have high expectations for what children can achieve, and they challenge children to discover and explore deeply in everything they do. For example, children investigate the correct texture of the sand as they build a sandcastle. They make predictions and freely express their thoughts and ideas. Children discuss if the sand is compact enough in the buckets so as not to crumble when it is tipped into the tray. They recall previous learning and excitedly share their predictions with friends.

Staff welcome children with the most nurturing and loving approach. They make sure that every child feels secure as they separate from their parents. Children's individual needs are supported extremely well by staff as they thrive in the care of the dedicated and caring staff.

Children's behaviour is impeccable. They display excellent manners and are extremely considerate of others. Staff teach children rich and varied vocabulary to describe how they feel. Staff take the time to support any child who might be unsure to quickly settle. They create an environment where children feel safe and comfortable to share their emotions.

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

- The management team are inspirational in their dedication to supporting her staff team. The provider prioritises their well-being and professional development. Staff undertake an extensive range of high-quality training that impacts on improvements in the setting. For instance, recent training in understanding supporting younger children during transitions through the day has helped staff to gain more awareness of how they can use strategies to help children during these times. For example, using coloured cloths to move from one room to the garden has minimised younger children's distress.
- The special educational needs coordinator and her staff team go above and beyond to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff establish exceptional partnership with parents and external agencies to gain a precise understanding of the support they can offer. They follow targeted plans and work tirelessly to ensure that children with SEND achieve the best possible outcomes.
- Staff focus highly on developing children's communication and language and personal social and emotional development within the curriculum. Younger children eagerly join in group activities to focus on building their attention and

anticipation, as they demonstrate their singing skills, singing along with the song. Recent training to support children's listening, attention and language skills is implemented into the daily routines for the children. Staff encourage children to express themselves emotionally and expertly reassure those that become upset as they distract them with fun and laughter.

- Staff ensure that every child has the opportunity to experience and learn about their local community and the wider world around them. For instance, they take children on multiple trips and outings linked to children's interests. Children enjoy travelling on the bus when going on trips and learning about their local community.
- Staff provide extensive and exciting opportunities for children to be physically active and develop their physical skills. For example, children take part in regular forest-school sessions to enhance their learning in nature and managing risks as they climb and navigate the muddy ground. Younger children delight in balancing on the planks of wood as stepping stones in the garden. They develop their core strength and agility as they persevere balancing from one plank to another. Older children immerse themselves in developing their hand muscles, rolling, squashing and squeezing playdough during the play dough disco.
- Partnership with parents is outstanding. Staff establish close relationships with every family and ensure that they provide parents with personalised and detailed information about their child's progress and development. Parents feel valued and cared for. They access regular online reading sessions as part of the book of the week, and receive weekly information and activities for children. This ensures that parents can continue children's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff complete regular safeguarding training and hold paediatric first-aid qualifications. They have expert knowledge of all safeguarding issues. Staff understand their responsibilities in promoting children's welfare. The managers follow robust recruitment measures. Thorough risk assessments ensure children's safety. Staff know the signs and symptoms of abuse and what their local procedures for reporting it are. They understand the procedure to follow should they become concerned about a colleagues behaviour. Managers provide parents with information through well thought out leaflets such as safer sleep practices.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483268
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	10280791
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	124
Name of registered person	Sanford, Abigail Esther
Registered person unique reference number	RP901163
Telephone number	07956 122864
Date of previous inspection	28 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

Enchanted Wood Preschool registered in 2014 and operates in Bexleyheath, Kent. The pre-school operates from 8.30am to 4pm on Monday to Friday, during term time only. There are 13 members of staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, two are qualified to level 5, nine staff hold an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3 and one is unqualified. The preschool receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years as well as the early years pupil premium funding.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracey Murphy

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 their evaluation of the setting.
- The management team joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, both indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and grandparents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector relevant documentation.

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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