

Inspection of Purple Willows Sidcup

106 Cadet Detachment, Old Farm Road East, Sidcup, Kent DA15 8AE

Inspection date: 4 May 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

Leaders and staff fully understand what they what children to learn and why. They set high expectations for all children's learning. As a result, all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make meaningful progress in their learning. Children are motivated and demonstrate a positive attitude to learning.

Children have a strong passion for books, and staff share many stories with them. Staff read with enthusiasm and ask questions to sustain children's engagement. For instance, while reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' to a group of pre-school children, staff encourage children to predict what will happen next. Children pretend to be walking through 'thick, oozy mud' and a 'snowstorm', mimicking the sound effects. Children use new words they have learned, such as 'footprints' and 'scared', when explaining events in the book.

Children are emotionally secure and behave exceptionally well for their age. Staff are competent in implementing the nursery's vision and values, such as respect and kindness. Children as young as babies learn to use kind hands and play nicely with their friends. Older children are highly considerate of each other. They know the golden rules and can explain why these are in place.

Children feel happy, safe and content in the nursery.

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

- Staff have a good knowledge of children's abilities and next steps in their learning. They use observations and assessments effectively to monitor the progress of both individuals and groups of children. Staff act promptly to organise extra support, working effectively with outside agencies to help those children with additional learning needs catch up with their peers. All children acquire essential skills for their future education.
- The curriculum for developing children's communication and language is implemented well. Staff use highly effective strategies to extend children's communication and language development. Staff working with the youngest children comment on their play, introduce single words and encourage them to repeat words. Older children are encouraged to talk in full sentences. Staff provide many opportunities for children to hear new words in the learning environment. For instance, staff teach children how to pronounce complex words, such as staccato, during a music lesson.
- Staff understand the way children learn. They benefit from good opportunities to develop and extend on their practice. For instance, staff have recently attended curriculum training to help them plan effectively and build on children's

knowledge. However, on a few occasions, staff can become overzealous in their teaching and do not always allow children to make independent choices in their learning, to help extend their interests.

- Partnership with parents is strong. Staff use the online system and face-to-face communication well to keep parents informed about children's care and learning. In addition, leaders and staff organise special events, including stay-and-play sessions, for parents and carers to come in and carry out activities with the children. The team consults and acts on the views of parents when making changes in the nursery, to help drive improvements. Parents are kept up to date with staff changes and incidents that happen on the premises. Parents express that they are happy and satisfied with the service.
- Staff set high expectations for behaviour. They use their expert knowledge of behaviour management well to help children learn what is expected. They teach older children to understand different emotions, such as how to self-regulate and manage difficult situations. In addition, staff form positive relationships with children and offer lots of praise to boost children's self-esteem. This contributes successfully to the way children behave.
- Children are responsible and manage risks with confidence. Staff encourage children, including babies, to help to put resources away after play. They teach children to share and remind them to be careful when accessing the steps in the garden. Children show high levels of confidence and resilience when climbing and balancing on play equipment.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The management team and staff have a suitable understanding of child protection. They can easily identify when there is a concern about a child's welfare and know what action to take to safeguard them. Staff are aware of their duty to prevent children from exposure to situations that may put them at significant risk of harm. They carry out rigorous risk assessment of the learning environment to remove any potential risks to help keep children safe. The management team ensures that the staffing arrangement is effective to meet children's needs and keep them safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- increase opportunities for younger children to make independent choices in their play, to further build on their interest and enhance their engagement levels.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY553218
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	10282911
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	40
Number of children on roll	63
Name of registered person	Purple Willows Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP553217
Telephone number	02039152380
Date of previous inspection	30 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

Purple Willows Sidcup registered in 2017. The nursery operates Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6pm, all year round. There are 14 members of staff. Of these, 10 are qualified at level 2 and above. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

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Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 inspector conducted a learning walk with the acting manager of the nursery and discussed the curriculum intent for children's learning and how the early years provision is structured.
- A joint observation was conducted by the inspector and the acting manager, and discussions were held about children's learning.
- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children and assessed the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector interacted with children and spoke to staff at appropriate times.
- Some parents were spoken to and their views were taken into account to assess the effectiveness of partnership working with parents.
- Documents such as evidence of staff's suitability and paediatric first-aid qualifications were scrutinised by the inspector.

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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