

Inspection of Belmont Village Pre-school

St. Johns Church, Northdown Road, SUTTON, Surrey SM2 6DY

Inspection date: 28 September 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

Staff are knowledgeable about children's individual needs that make them unique. They collect a wealth of information from parents and other professionals to get to know children well. Staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children form secure emotional attachments. As a result, children are happy and feel safe. Staff are consistent in managing children's behaviour. They model good sharing and turn-taking, which children respond to positively. Staff promote an inclusive practice. They teach children about the diverse communities in which they live. Children gain a good understanding about similarities and differences between people.

Staff have high expectations for all the children. They ensure that children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) access the same ambitious curriculum as their peers. Where necessary, staff offer children one-to-one support, which contributes significantly to the progress they make. Children enjoy role play very much. They delight in dressing up as police officers and firefighters, which shows their creativity and imagination. Children develop their early mathematical skills. They are beginning to count and use numbers during play. Children gain the knowledge and skills that are needed for the next stage of their education.

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

- The provider is an experienced and committed professional. She leads a team which is equally passionate about its work with children. This has a very positive impact on children's attitudes and levels of motivation.
- The provider and staff are especially supportive towards families. They offer parents advice and guidance to promote a consistent approach to children's learning. For example, staff talk to parents to aid the transition between home and pre-school. This approach fosters a positive relationship with parents who are extremely supportive of staff. Parents praise the way staff keep them informed about their children's learning.
- Staff have a strong commitment to tracking children's progress. They make effective use of the information gained to identify children's learning needs. This includes children with SEND or who are falling behind in their education. For example, staff notice very quickly when children have speech delay and refer them to relevant professionals. This ensures that children make rapid and sustained progress from their starting points.
- Children are active and enthusiastic learners. They enjoy the range of activities on offer, inside and outside. For example, while in the garden, children delight in using their senses as they explore and hunt for things in the ground. However, staff do not always make use of this opportunity to build on and extend children's natural curiosity.

- Staff report that they receive high levels of supervision and coaching from the provider. They have opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills. For instance, staff have completed training on sign language to aid children's communication. Children, including those with SEND, show confidence in using signs to communicate with their peers and adults.
- The curriculum focuses well on developing children's vocabulary. Staff read stories and sing songs to help children learn new words. The development of children's independence skills is another key aspect of the curriculum. Staff encourage children to manage age-appropriate tasks, including their toileting needs.
- Staff support children's behaviour very well. They teach children to be kind and considerate towards their peers.
- The key-person system is effective. Each key person is knowledgeable about their children and forms a strong bond with them. This supports children's emotional well-being effectively.
- The provider shows a strong commitment to self-evaluation for the benefit of children and their families. For example, she worked well with staff to review the indoor environment to provide children with more physical space. This enables children to move around freely, supporting their spatial awareness, coordination and agility.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure understanding of signs and symptoms that a child is at risk of harm, particularly neglect. They do not hesitate to report any concerns to relevant agencies to protect a child's welfare. Staff are aware of other safeguarding issues, including extremism and grooming of children. The provider follows rigorous checks to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff are deployed effectively to meet children's individual needs. They complete frequent headcounts of children to help keep them safe. This is especially important during transitions, such as when children move between the playroom and garden.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to make the most of opportunities to challenge and extend children's natural curiosity, particularly when playing outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	139901
Local authority	Sutton
Inspection number	10304964
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	13
Name of registered person	Belmont Village Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910812
Telephone number	07810 064 221
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2018

Information about this early years setting

Belmont Village Pre-school registered in 1992 and is located in the London Borough of Sutton. The pre-school is open during term time only from 9am to 1pm, Monday and Friday. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday it is open from 9am to 3pm. There are currently three staff members, including the provider, all of whom hold an early years qualification at level 3. The pre-school offers funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

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 provider and inspector completed a learning walk together. They discussed how staff plan and implement the early years curriculum. The provider and inspector also carried out a joint observation of group time and evaluated the impact this has on children's learning.
- Parents spoke with the inspector to share their views on the quality of the provision.
- The inspector interacted with the children at appropriate times during the inspection. She looked at some of the children's progress and discussed this with their key person.
- The inspector checked the required documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and training.

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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