

Sunshine Corner Neighbourhood Nursery

Aylesham CP School, Attlee Avenue, Aylesham, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 3BS



Inspection date 17 February 2015
Previous inspection date 14 October 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The setting has a warm friendly atmosphere where staff make good flexible use of space and resources to cater effectively for the needs of the different ages of children.
- The children choose to play either indoors or outside and decide which activities they use and how they use them. As a result, children are developing good decision-making skills for future learning.
- The staff use books effectively during activities. This teaches children to look at books for information and comparisons. As a result, children are developing good writing skills in writing their names and making detailed drawings to display.
- The children make good use of the garden area where there are plenty of activities to promote their physical development. Children learn to take risks in their play outdoors while keeping themselves and others safe.
- The staff promote good relationships with parents through regular discussions about children's progress, using bold displays about childcare issues in the entrance area, and through regular consultations about the service they offer.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff provide lots of number work for children but do not always use a variety of mathematical language to teach children about different mathematical concepts.
- Although children eat food which is healthy and nutritious, staff do not always involve them in preparing food for snack time or serving themselves at lunch, and do not always encourage the younger children to pour their own drinks.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's independence at snack and meal times. For example, allow children to pour their own drinks, prepare their own food for snack time and serve their own food at snack and meal times
- increase staff's use of language relating to weight, volume and measurement during children's activities, to extend their understanding of different mathematical concepts.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a variety of paperwork including the nursery's safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector observed the interaction between staff and children, indoors and outside.
- The inspector carried out a short joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked to managers, staff and children during the inspection.

Inspector

Linda Coccia

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The manager and staff know all the children very well. Staff accurately monitor children's progress. They make allowances for children's starting points and capabilities and provide individual learning programmes that meet each child's needs. Staff use good questioning to encourage children to learn numbers and number shapes. However, they do not extend children's mathematical language by including questions about measurement, volume and weight during activities. Children learn to be independent in their personal needs by taking themselves to the toilet and getting coats and boots on for outdoor play. Staff increase children's levels of independence when they are due to move to school by providing additional lunch boxes, book bags, P.E. bags and school uniforms, for children to practise with. They also support them with visits to their local schools. This means that children are emotionally and physically ready for their move to school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children are very happy at the nursery and show this as they move freely around, playing well together in small groups and engaging staff in their activities. For example, one member of staff became a doctor for sick dolls and then, prompted by the children, a vet for sick animals. Food is freshly prepared on the premises each day. However, children are not always involved in preparing fruit and vegetables for snack time and they do not always serve themselves food at snack or meal times. The staff pour drinks for the younger children. This means that children do not have many opportunities to discuss portion sizes or develop their physical control skills. Children are competent in the daily routines of the nursery. They are compliant with staff requests to consider and reduce hazards in the play space, such as by clearing the floor to avoid trip hazards. Therefore, children learn to play safely.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager and her administrator effectively maintain paperwork, including the checking of accident, medication and attendance records. All staff understand their roles and responsibilities to protect children and are particularly robust in checking any existing injuries to children with their parents. They also thoroughly scrutinise any strangers collecting children. This shows that staff give children's well-being a high priority. The manager effectively monitors staff performance through observation and individual supervision sessions. Staff have good opportunities for professional development and all staff hold current paediatric first-aid, behaviour management and child protection certificates. The manager regularly evaluates the nursery, using comments from staff, parents and other professionals. She is effective in making regular improvements to the learning environment, to help ensure good outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY282231
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	833586
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	88
Name of provider	Pre-School Learning Alliance
Date of previous inspection	14 October 2010
Telephone number	01304 842223

Sunshine Corner Nursery opened in 2004. It operates from a building in the grounds of Aylesham Primary School, Kent. The nursery receives educational funding for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 8.45am to 11.45am and from 12.45pm to 3.45pm. Children can attend all day from 7.30am to 5.30pm.

The setting employs 15 staff. Of these, one has Qualified Teacher Status, and the remaining 12 hold National Vocational Qualifications.

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