

Park Avenue Nursery

Victoria Park, Deal, Kent, CT14 9AH



Inspection date

8 May 2015

Previous inspection date

20 September 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 | | Outstanding | 1 |
| 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 quality of teaching is very good. Staff provide a stimulating learning environment that engages and motivates all children to explore and develop. Consequently, children make very good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Staff plan extremely effective activities to help children prepare exceptionally well for changes in their lives, for example, when moving to school. This supports their personal, social and emotional needs especially well.
- Care practices positively respect younger children's dignity, and older children independently manage their own needs extremely well. For example, they know that they need to wash their hands before and after eating.
- The staff have built effective partnerships with parents. They share information daily and are invited to learning workshops and parents' day. This helps to keep parents well informed about their children's learning and development.
- Staff have regular supervision and appraisal sessions and attend frequent training courses. This impacts greatly on the quality of their practice, which positively promotes the children's learning experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always introduce a wide range of mathematical language during adult-led group activities to fully extend children's mathematical understanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of mathematical language during activities to promote children's understanding of positional language and counting forwards and backwards.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to a large selection of parents during the inspection and listened to their views.
- The inspector observed children participating in a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities, and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning files, and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

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

Staff frequently update their knowledge and skills. This helps them develop the learning environment to ensure they support all children's developmental requirements. They use their good knowledge of how children learn and develop to plan activities that challenge children's existing skills. For example, children excitedly experiment with the water pipes, hoses and funnels, asking each other where they think the water will emerge. Children play co-operatively together, remaining focused for long uninterrupted periods. This helps them develop the key skills required for future learning. Staff listen to the children carefully. They repeat mispronounced words and support all children's communication and language needs through the use of sign language. This positively supports good speech development. There is a good balance between child-led and adult-led learning opportunities. For example, staff plan focus activities that encourage children to become active group learners, such as making a large robot from recycled card.

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

Staff have exceptional arrangements to fully support children's personal, social and emotional development. They specifically attend training courses to ensure the individual learning needs of all children are met. This positively enhances children's well-being. Close relationships and loving attachments are evident. Children readily seek out staff for cuddles or reassurance. Children are highly confident and independent learners. They learn about healthy eating and the importance of physical exercise as they skilfully ride on wheeled toys. Children have an excellent understanding for their own safety. For example, when outdoors, children tell each other 'not to run too fast or you might fall over'. Children behave very well. This is because staff have implemented some excellent behavioural procedures. They listen well and practise regular evacuation drills. This ensures that they know what to do in an emergency and effectively develops their safety awareness skills.

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

The manager and staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding and child protection requirements, and have a good range of policies and procedures. They regularly update their safeguarding training. This ensures that staff know what to do if they have any concerns. Therefore, children's health and safety is effectively supported. The manager and staff have built positive partnerships with other settings and agencies to share information on a regular basis. Self-reflection is undertaken regularly by the manager. She takes account of the views of staff, parents and children to help identify areas for improvement and to set challenging targets. Parents spoken to during the inspection expressed total satisfaction with the service they receive.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Unique reference number | 127435 |
| Local authority | Kent |
| Inspection number | 836223 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 60 |
| Number of children on roll | 102 |
| Name of provider | Stephanie Elizabeth McGahan |
| Date of previous inspection | 20 September 2010 |
| Telephone number | 01304 380345 |

Park Avenue Day Nursery registered in 1993. The nursery operates from a converted clinic in Deal, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 4.30pm, for 50 weeks of the year. There are 11 members of staff, of whom eight hold appropriate qualifications. The nursery receives early education funding for two-, three- and four-year olds.

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