

Inspection date	15 December 2016
Previous inspection date	18 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager provides a secure and safe environment for children. Any accidents are dealt with in a calm and caring way, and children are reassured. Parents are informed and thorough risk assessments are undertaken to remove any hazards and ensure that children receive the support required to play safely.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff know children well and know what children like to do. They plan activities that children are keen to engage in and that encourage their individual learning. Children make good progress in their learning and development. Additional funding is used well to support individual children's needs.
- Children play in a warm and welcoming environment. Clear expectations and boundaries help to ensure children's good behaviour. Children learn to share and take turns. They are caring towards each other, helping them make positive friendships.
- Staff skilfully support children's language and communication development. For example, they introduce new words and ask children questions that encourage them to describe in detail what they see as they complete an animal jigsaw puzzle.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the manager does not ensure that knowledge gained from training is successfully shared with others to support their professional development even further.
- There are missed opportunities to encourage parents to continue with their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve how knowledge and skills gained from staff training is shared with all staff to help build outcomes for children to an even higher level
- develop further the arrangements for sharing information with parents about children's development needs to help them continue learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors. A joint observation with the manager was carried out.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager in relation to observations of children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector had discussions with staff and children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector
Karen Scott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities and the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child's welfare. Good self-evaluation helps the manager make improvement plans. For example, staff in the baby and toddler room are introducing display boards so that children and families can look at and enjoy the creative artwork. Staff visit other early years settings to share good practice and get ideas to improve children's learning outcomes. Children's progress and development are regularly reviewed by the manager and staff to identify and address any learning gaps. This also helps staff make positive changes to children's experiences. For example, they placed books all around the room and found that children accessed them more frequently.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are quick to respond to children as they play, and they extend their learning. For example, when babies and toddlers explored musical instruments, staff used music to encourage them to shake and bang the instruments in time. Babies enjoy sharing books with staff, who encourage their interest, for example, by making the sounds of the animals in the pictures. Staff introduce mathematics well. For instance, as children joined train track pieces together, they encouraged them to think about the available space. Children concentrate well and enjoy problem solving, such as when they enthusiastically and confidently wrapped Christmas gifts. Staff share children's development information with other settings that they attend, working together well to support their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are pleased to see each other and are supported well by staff. For instance, some bring comforters from home to help them settle. Staff help children to develop an understanding of playing safely. For example, they clearly explain why children need to let others come down the slide before climbing up, at the same time as encouraging them to take appropriate risks in their play and develop their confidence. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For instance, they enjoy the nutritious meals, often asking for seconds, and staff involve them in discussions about what they eat. Children take pride in the nursery environment. For example, they decided to clean pen marks off the table.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy participating in activities and become eager learners. Older children independently take care of their personal care needs, such as finding comfortable places to rest and sleep when tired and buttering their own toast. Children gain an awareness of people's differences and similarities. All children develop positive levels of confidence and are ready for the next stage in their learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY257399
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1061703
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Lindsay Susannah Harris
Registered person unique reference number	RP514015
Date of previous inspection	18 September 2013
Telephone number	01795 666420

Pipsqueaks is a privately run nursery. It registered in 2003 and operates from a two-storey building in Queenborough, Isle of Sheppey, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am to 7pm, for approximately 50 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff, all of whom hold recognised early years qualifications. One member of staff has qualified teacher status.

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