

Rainbow Pre-School

Congregation Church Hall, High Street, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3DT



Inspection date

15 March 2017

Previous inspection date

5 February 2015

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

- Children feel safe and behave well. They have highly positive relationships with their key workers and this helps to support their emotional well-being.
- Staff value the partnership with parents. Parents appreciate the regular communication about their children's learning and progress and the opportunities they have to contribute to their child's assessment records.
- There are good links between the nursery and other settings, including school. Information about children's achievements is shared and this helps to support a smooth transition and a consistency in learning.
- Staff discuss children's starting points with parents when children start at the nursery. From then on, they make regular observations of children as they learn, and plan appropriate activities to support children's next steps to help to support their good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of opportunities to consistently challenge children as they interact with them, to extend their thinking skills even further.
- There are times when children do not have a wide enough range of opportunities to further develop and extend their early reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's thinking skills even further, making the most of all the opportunities that occur in interactions to provide more challenge
- use all the opportunities available for children to further develop and extend their early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all members of staff.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of children's activities with the deputy manager and discussed the learning that took place.
- The inspector held discussions about safeguarding procedures with a member of staff and with the deputy nominated person.
- The inspector spoke to parents, read their comments and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with members of the management team.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are knowledgeable about the procedures to follow to keep a child safe from harm. They know who to contact if they have a concern about a child's safety or welfare. Senior leaders hold regular meetings with staff to discuss their practice and training needs and staff are encouraged to update their knowledge and skills to improve outcomes for children. They share new training with each other to help support consistency in practice. Self-evaluation is accurate. Children's progress is thoroughly checked and rapid steps are taken to close any identified gaps in children's learning. Staff seek advice from external professionals to help support children who have special educational needs. The premises are checked on a daily basis and swift action is taken to minimise any risk such as animal fouling.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's understanding of the natural world is effectively supported. For example, children put all their fruit peelings into the compost bin and collect leaves to make leaf mould. They observe, and recognise common birds as they collect twigs and moss to make their nests. Children are actively encouraged to develop their early writing skills. For instance, outside, they make marks using water and brushes. They have fun watching water cascade through the water wall and notice that soap lather travels more slowly. Children's imaginations are effectively developed. For instance, they bandage their pretend injuries up in the hospital area and remember to limp on the correct leg.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Regular visits to the local woods and a rapidly developing knowledge of healthy eating, support children's physical development. Children understand how to take turns and share. For instance, they readily share their water as they wash the seats outside and take turns in the use of the magnifying glass as they examine the inside of fruit at snack time. Children play with a range of resources to help support their understanding of the differences and similarities between themselves and others. They made Chinese dragons and created dances to support their understanding of other cultures. Children use scissors and other tools safely and effectively. For example, they cut tape to fasten structures together and use rolling pins and cutters to shape modelling dough.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn the skills they need for the next stage of their education, including school. They practise their independence such as unfastening their own lunch box packages and pouring their own drinks. Children learn to count and to understand the mathematical language of size. They recognise and write their own names. Children can follow established routines and recognise sounds and symbols that indicate a change of activity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127495
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1085732
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Rainbow Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904118
Date of previous inspection	5 February 2015
Telephone number	01580 715570

Rainbow Pre-School has been registered since 1982. The pre-school operates from a detached hall situated in Cranbrook, Kent. The pre-school is open each weekday term time only. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm on Monday to Thursday and 9am until 12pm on Fridays. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff, of whom, three, including the acting manager, hold a recognised childcare qualification at level 3, two staff are qualified to level 2 and there are two unqualified apprentices.

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