

Busy Bees Pre-School

Methodist Church Hall, West Cross, High Street, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6JS



Inspection date 4 October 2017
Previous inspection date 9 June 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 have a good understanding of the natural world. They confidently explore and experiment with real objects to make sense of growth, their senses and how to keep healthy.
- Children's speech and language development is supported well. Their vocabulary is stretched and challenged as staff introduce children to more complex words to help promote their understanding.
- The staff team works well together to continually develop the service for children and their families. They attend forums, research new practices and attend regular training to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. They evaluate their practice effectively to highlight where changes would be helpful.
- Partnerships with parents and other carers are strong. Parents and carers comment on their positive experience of feeling part of their children's learning and ongoing progress. They appreciate the dedication and time given to helping parents liaise with other professionals, which helps to provide consistent support to children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not fully support children's differing abilities to help them to concentrate and engage in group activities.
- Staff do not consistently give the less confident children the support to fully develop relationships with other children in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the organisation of group times to extend opportunities for all children to further develop levels of concentration and engagement
- enhance staff's understanding of how they can fully support the less confident children in developing relationships with others.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff's interactions with children in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector took into consideration the setting's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a wide range of documentation, including policies, children's records and suitability checks for staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers and took account of their views.

Inspector

Claire Parnell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The knowledgeable staff are very aware of their responsibility to protect children from harm. They support children's understanding of keeping themselves safe through clear explanations and demonstrations. All staff hold appropriate qualifications and continue to develop their professional skills and knowledge through regular training. The management carefully evaluates the impact teaching has on each area of learning for each child. It identifies areas to develop and provides further training for individual staff and the whole team.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

An effective assessment programme helps to monitor children's development. Information is shared with children's parents and with other settings that they attend. This helps to support a continual approach to children's learning. Staff provide a stimulating programme of activities, with a well-balanced provision of adult-led and child-initiated play. Staff engage children in meaningful conversations, using extended questioning to help children to think for themselves. This helps children prepare for school. Staff use resources, including photographs, books and small-world play, to promote discussion and support children's understanding. Staff recognise when some children are not making typical progress and engage them effectively in relevant activities, for example, to promote their senses and encourage eye contact.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thoroughly enjoy physical play. Staff carefully plan and provide regular opportunities indoors and outdoors for children to extend their physical skills, such as climbing, balancing, riding and dancing. Children learn about healthy lifestyles through daily routines. They make healthy choices at snack time and learn to pour their own drinks. Staff sensitively promote children's understanding of hygiene procedures and give gentle support for younger children, such as reminding them to go to the toilet. Children's physical and emotional well-being is promoted effectively in preparation for their transition to their next place of learning. Staff talk to children about their new school environment and help them to develop self-help skills, such as changing their shoes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children express themselves confidently through words, expressions, gestures and signs. They use the outside play area imaginatively, using sticks to hide bugs and insects. Their learning is extended as they look at information about the mini-beasts in available books and pictures. Children act out roles that they see at home, such as mowing the grass. They show an increasing ability to act out fantasy roles, such as hunting for treasure in the pirate ship and in the sand tray. Children make marks throughout their play experiences, such as using diaries in the home corner.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127069
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1089328
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	26
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	J Weeks and M Linnett Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP535277
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2015
Telephone number	07949357459

Busy Bees Pre-School registered in 1994. It operates from the Methodist Church Hall in Tenterden, Kent. It is open each weekday, term time only, from 9am until 12.15pm. On Wednesday it is open until 2.30pm. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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