

The Children's Workshop



Environmental Park, Buckhurst Lane, SEVENOAKS, Kent TN13 1FE

Inspection date	9 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Staff build and maintain secure and trusting relationships with children. Children have a good sense of belonging and positive levels of well-being and self-esteem.
- The manager and staff effectively reflect on their practice. For example, they observe other's teaching. They provide and use helpful advice to support their future performance. This helps keep children motivated to learn and make good progress.
- There is good use of the community to extend children's learning experiences. Children learn about the importance of the environment as they enjoy litter picking activities.
- Children develop good skills to support their future learning. For instance, children are independent as they choose their own play and complete tasks with confidence.
- There are good opportunities for children to challenge their physical skills. For example, they climb and balance in interesting ways, such as using trees.
- All staff establish positive partnerships with other early years professionals and help provide children with a good consistent approach to their shared care and learning. For instance, they observe children and make next steps in their learning together.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff work well overall with parents, they do not make the most of opportunities to encourage parents to share children's achievements from home, to strengthen children's consistency of learning.
- Staff miss some opportunities to extend children's speaking and listening skills, to answer questions, and build on their conversations even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already good partnerships with parents, to encourage them to share children's achievements from home more regularly to strengthen the link between home and the setting even further
- extend children's opportunities to build on their conversations, develop their communication and language skills, and have consistent opportunities to answer thought-provoking questions even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at the written documentation, including a sample of the policies and procedures, risk assessments, and staff training records.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, children, parents, and staff, and considered their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation on a planned activity with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the consistency of the quality of care and teaching experiences that staff provide children. For example, she carries out regular one-to-one meetings with staff to reflect on their performance and highlight any training needs. The manager and staff are keen to build on their skills further. They attend training beneficial to their practice. For example, they learned about how to interest children to explore and investigate through introducing simple science experiments. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding and child protections policies and procedures to follow to help protect children's welfare. Children learn how to keep themselves and others safe. For example, they regularly practise crossing the road safely with staff. Children participate in activities that require good levels of maturity. For instance, they enjoy safely making camp fires and roasting chestnuts under good staff supervision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff effectively monitor and track children's individual and specific groups progress. This enables them to promptly identify and address any gaps in their development. Staff provide children with good support to help them catch up in their learning quickly. Staff skilfully help prepare children for their eventual move to school. For instance, younger children enjoy a wide range of reading materials and bring their favourite stories alive with puppets. Older children recognise simple words with confidence. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who enjoy being creative, go on to explore paint in interesting ways, like using bubbles to make patterns.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are polite and behave well. Children have good social skills and build meaningful friendships. For instance, they happily play together and take turns in group activities. Children receive support to develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles and eating. For instance, they enjoy harvesting their own healthy produce for snacks, like runner beans with staff. Children enjoy regular sports workshops and explore different ways to move, such as crouching. Staff provide children with good opportunities to learn about other people's similarities and differences. For example, they learn about other traditions and cultures, including Indian henna patterns.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who learn English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning. Children gain good skills to support their future learning. Older children write their name with confidence and younger children give meanings to the marks they make as they play in the sand. Children develop a good level of empathy and kindness. For instance, each week, they visit the elderly at Age UK and play games and share stories with them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501765
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10077047
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	The Children's Workshop
Registered person unique reference number	RP901238
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01732741391

The Children's Workshop registered in 2016. It is located in Sevenoaks, Kent. The setting is open from Monday to Friday, from 9am to 3.15pm, term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four-years-old. The setting employs 10 staff. Six of these have relevant early years qualification at level 2 and above. This includes one member of staff who has a level 5 and one member of staff who has an early years teacher status.

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