

Playaway Pre School

Cage Green road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN10 4PT



Inspection date

21 January 2015

Previous inspection date

11 December 2009

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		Good	2
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

- Staff use well-established key-person arrangements to help them build good relationships with their key children so they feel safe and secure.
- Staff develop effective methods of communication which value and include all parents. This helps them develop and maintain strong relationships with parents.
- Safeguarding is a given a high priority within the pre-school, which means that all children remain safe.
- Staff use their good knowledge and skills to promote children's communication and language skills in a variety of ways.
- Staff use effective behaviour management techniques to promote good behaviour and the well-being of all children.
- Staff use effective strategies to ensure that all children are well supported in the move from the pre-school into school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide consistent opportunities for children to develop their independence during snack times.
- Staff miss some opportunities to further develop children's understanding of differences in society.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide a variety of resources and experiences reflecting positive images of diversity to encourage children's awareness of differences in society and the world around them
- ensure that all children have the opportunity to develop independence skills during snack time.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the nursery that children use.
- The inspector observed staff interacting with the children.
- The inspector sampled written documentation, including children's progress reports, policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to children, gathered parents' views and spoke to staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a good range of activities to promote learning and development across all areas of learning. Children are encouraged to select resources for themselves. However, staff miss some opportunities at snack time to extend children's independence skills further. The pre-school provides a wide range of interesting resources to develop understanding in all areas of learning. However, staff miss some opportunities to broaden children's understanding of diversity in the world around them. Children enjoy stories and singing. Staff encourage children's involvement and introduce letters of the week successfully to develop children's communication and language skills. Children develop mathematical skills and language as they complete shape puzzles and match beanbags in a throwing activity in the garden. Staff involve parents in children's learning which helps to provide children with consistency. For example, staff share resources and send home favourite stories.

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

The staff develop good relationships with the children who are happy to attend. Children engage in conversations with staff who respond positively to them. Staff are deployed well, indoors and outdoors, to support children as they freely choose where they wish to explore. Staff promote discussions that help children understand the importance of safety routines and exercise on their bodies. For example, children comment 'I am going outside now, as my legs are running in here'. Staff model good behaviour and manners, which leads to children behaving well. Staff have good relationships with outside agencies and other settings. This helps staff ensure that children with additional needs make good progress. Staff teach children the skills they need for future learning and prepare them well for school. Children participate in school events and build their confidence through a good range of experiences.

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

Management and staff have a good knowledge of the requirements for safeguarding children. They have a clear understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow. The pre-school is thoroughly risk assessed and staff ensure it is safe and secure for children. Management monitor the quality of provision and make changes to improve outcomes for children. The manager implements effective procedures to ensure the suitability of staff and support their professional development through training and supervision. All staff now hold an early years qualification. Parents comment positively about the pre-school. They feel well informed and involved in their children's learning. Children make good progress because teaching is effective. Staff monitor and assess children's learning and plan their progression well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY256970
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	833115
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	39
Name of provider	Rachel Kingsnorth
Date of previous inspection	11 December 2009
Telephone number	01732 354325

Playaway Pre School registered in 2003. It is situated in the grounds of Cage Green School in Tonbridge. The pre-school uses two main playrooms, an entrance hall and a toilet block and the school grounds for outdoor play. It operates term time only from 9am until 12pm Monday to Friday. There is an extended session offered to cover lunchtime until 1pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The pre-school is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are five staff employed to work directly with the children. All of who hold relevant early years qualifications. The pre-school has close links with the host primary school.

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