

Woodpeckers Preschool

Quaker Lane, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 2HF



Inspection date

1 July 2015

Previous inspection date

15 October 2010

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 support children's individual needs well. Children are happy and confident to settle. As a result, children have secure and trusting relationships with the staff.
- Staff maintain a good level of communication with all parents so they feel fully included and informed about their children's learning and development.
- Staff interact positively and consistently with the children. As a result, children are confident and develop good communication skills.
- Staff monitor and track children's progress well, meaning that they meet all children's needs through individualised planning. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff prioritise the safety of the children. They have a good understanding of the procedures to follow and know how to report any concerns to protect children.
- Management is committed to making continuous improvements. They use a variety of effective ways to evaluate their practice. Consequently, children receive high-quality learning opportunities.
- Staff plan a variety of activities that support children to develop their independence and social skills. These skills prepare children well for school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully promote children's early letter recognition in the outdoor environment.
- Staff miss opportunities to fully engage all children during changes within the daily routine.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to develop letter recognition in the outdoor environment
- improve opportunities to fully engage all children during changes within the daily routine.

Inspection activities

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

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 variety of activities to stimulate and engage children to promote all areas of learning and development. Staff skilfully extend children's learning well overall. For example, children enjoy interactive role play stories and large construction activities and staff help them make links to the real world in their discussions. Staff use a good range of techniques to develop their listening and speaking skills. They use thought-provoking questions to effectively challenge children's thinking and problem-solving skills. Staff engage parents in their children's learning. For example, they encourage their contributions to their children's online learning records and speak with them on a daily basis. Parents speak highly of their inclusion and involvement. This promotes continuity in children's learning and development.

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

Staff maintain good relationships with children, who arrive confidently and are happy to settle into self-chosen activities. Children seek out staff for support and offer conversations and hugs. Staff build good links with other professionals and work closely with the local schools to share events and ideas. This ensures that all children are well prepared to start school. Staff encourage discussions that help children understand the importance of caring for others and living things. For example, they observe their planted strawberries, sunflowers and their fairy garden. Children follow good hygiene practices to promote good physical well-being. Children enjoy keeping active outside and develop good physical skills, for example, negotiating their bodies when balancing and exploring space.

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

Staff complete risk assessments daily to ensure that the environments are safe. Management regularly monitors practice and continues to make positive changes. For example, staff take part in training to introduce new ideas to communicate effectively with all children, and the introduction to online planning now fully involves all parents. Staff continue to develop their knowledge and keep up to date with new thinking and ideas, which has a positive outcome on children's learning. The manager carries out thorough procedures and checks to ensure the suitability of all staff. Staff are encouraged and supported to continue their own professional development through regular training, research and individual meetings. Staff accurately monitor children's progress on a regular basis and they support children who require additional support effectively. Consequently, all children make good progress in all areas of their learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127786
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836256
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	Woodpeckers Pre-School and Cranbrook Baby and Toddler Group Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2010
Telephone number	01580 720195

Woodpeckers Preschool is a committee run group. It opened in 1998 and operates from single storey, purpose-built premises on the outskirts of Cranbrook, Kent. The pre-school receives funding for free early education. The pre-school is open each weekday, term time only. Opening times are from 9am to 12 noon on Monday, and from 9am to 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The pre-school employs seven members of staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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