

Cherubs Montessori Day Nursery

5 Castle View Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3PP



Inspection date

30 June 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

Good

2

Previous inspection:

Not applicable

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

- Staff provide a good range of age-appropriate resources and activities to engage children. Children are well motivated and make good progress in their learning.
- Staff promote children's communication very effectively. For example, they repeat favourite rhymes to the younger children and teach older children new vocabulary.
- Partnerships with parents are good. For example, an effective key-person approach helps children to settle and staff provide parents with daily diaries or verbal feedback.
- The staff team is friendly and enthusiastic, and works well together. Children form positive relationships with staff and each other.
- The manager and staff track children's progress successfully to identify their next steps in learning. They share this effectively with parents so that they can support their children's learning further at home.
- The manager evaluates the setting successfully to identify areas for development. For example, staff are enhancing the outdoor area further and have introduced new strategies for managing children's behaviour.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, daily routines mean that children have to sit unengaged for short periods of time. For example, they wait while lunch is served and queue for the toilets.
- Staff have not fully considered how to promote children's understanding of mathematics in all areas of the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the routines and structure of the day to ensure that children have sufficient time to always follow their own interests and remain engaged in play
- develop further opportunities for children to extend their knowledge of mathematics.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children interacting together in all areas of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children to gain their feedback.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and owner.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including evidence of staff suitability, training certificates and policies and procedures.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The enthusiastic manager is committed to providing a high-quality service for children and families. For example, she observes staff practice skilfully to identify areas for further development and provides mentoring for new staff during their induction. The manager tracks children's progress effectively to identify any gaps in the curriculum, and staff have increased their understanding of the assessment process. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep their knowledge updated and understand their responsibility to protect children. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about the welfare of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children develop. Staff engage effectively with children to extend their learning. For example, staff read favourite books to the youngest children who shriek excitedly, point to pictures and repeat key words. Staff use the outdoor areas well to promote learning. For example, children are fascinated watching snails and bugs, and older children take safe risks when they climb and balance on tyres and planks. Staff promote children's creativity effectively. For example, children enjoy being patients and doctors in the role-play area, and explore materials such as sand and pasta. Children have great fun using different ingredients to make playdough.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff meet children's individual needs very effectively and work in close partnership with other agencies. For example, they mirror children's home routines for sleep and comforters and provide specific support for children who need extra help. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they enjoy nutritious foods and clean their teeth after meals. Staff are good role models and encourage children to behave well. For example, they remain at the children's level during play and are patient and caring, praising children for their good manners. Staff promote safety effectively. For example, they adhere to good staff ratios and complete daily risk assessments. Staff promote children's awareness of safety, for example, by practising the emergency evacuation and teaching them how to manage the staircases safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and are very good communicators. For example, they eagerly recount previous experiences and know the name of their new teacher. Furthermore, they engage in meaningful conversations with staff and each other. Children develop important skills for the future. For example, they manage their own hygiene, learn to dress themselves and attempt to write their names. Furthermore, they know how to sound out letters to identify words and recognise words of personal significance.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY495639
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1054895
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	106
Name of registered person	Walton House Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901710
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01634716282

Cherubs Montessori Day Nursery re-registered in 2016. It is situated in Rochester, Kent. The nursery is open from 7am to 7pm each weekday for 51 weeks of the year. There are 34 members of staff; of whom, 30 hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications. The manager and three other members of staff are qualified to degree level. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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