

Inspection of Sprites Woodland Nursery Ltd

The Scout Hut, Capstone Road, Chatham, kent ME5 7NH

Inspection date: 11 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are extremely settled and content at nursery. The manager and staff place a high emphasis on a settling-in plan for children that is tailored to the individual needs of each child. Staff maintain excellent communication with parents to ensure that children have a valuable and fulfilling experiences at nursery. Staff have high expectations for every child in their care. All children receive highly effective support to give them a thirst for knowledge and a love of learning. Children are positive and show curiosity and enjoyment as they learn. They behave well and show kindness to each other. For instance, older children try and comfort and help younger children.

Staff carefully consider their environment and ensure that children have a wide range of opportunities to explore the natural world. They explore outside and use natural objects as they play. Children build a range of skills to help them to be strong communicators. For example, children snuggle up to staff as they read books, and staff know individual children's favourite stories so they can repeat and embed their knowledge. Children who need further support receive individual encouragement and strategies to help them develop their skills.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The manager has set out an ambitious and in-depth curriculum that fully supports all children in all aspects of their development. She clearly and succinctly communicates the ethos with staff, who carefully build on children's knowledge and skills based on what they know. Parents are highly complimentary of the high quality teaching their children receive.
- Children's personal development is hugely valued and supported at this warm and friendly nursery. Children have plentiful opportunities to play and learn in the natural world around them. For example, children excitedly count and compare the snowdrops and learn about daffodils. They eagerly begin to make marks as they tally how many they have counted and which colours they have seen.
- Staff place a high importance on ensuring that children are emotionally secure. Children build close bonds with staff who nurture and encourage independence and confidence. For instance, children know the routines extremely well as they tidy away their high visibility jackets and waterproof suits with little input from adults. Children wipe their noses when needed and see to their own care needs well. However, at times, staff do not use opportunities that arise to support children to take ownership of rules of the setting, to understand their own actions and develop children's knowledge further.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who learn English as an additional language receive excellent support. Staff work swiftly

with other professionals to gain support where needed. Parents speak highly of the advice and support given to both their children and themselves to ensure they access of areas of the curriculum.

- Children are highly engaged in their learning and development. For example, they watch with excitement and anticipation as staff and children mix ingredients together in a bag. Older children skilfully articulate what is going to happen and comment that it will make a bang. All children show their knowledge of the process as they move their chairs back knowing the bag will pop and leak the ingredients again.
- The manager and staff have an excellent knowledge of children's individual development. Tracking of children's learning seamlessly feeds into their self-evaluation and development in the setting. The manager is proactive and promptly addresses any areas for development. For instance, they identified that mark making for boys is a key focus to ensure that children's achievements remain high in all areas. This focus is observed throughout the day as children use small pads to mark make, and boys show interest by drawing on paper attached to the underside of a table.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager has a secure knowledge of the range of families that may access the setting. She knows how to work with other professionals to help keep children safe. The manager and deputy ensure that staff receive thorough training to help them assess whether a child may be at risk of abuse and the appropriate action to take. She assesses staff knowledge, for example, through discussions and scenarios to help them consider when a child or family is at risk. Staff complete thorough risk assessments of the setting and outside space, to ensure that high risk areas are known and hazards are minimised.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop the support for children to gain a greater understanding of their own actions and take ownership over the rules of the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477439
Local authority	Medway
Inspection number	10075951
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Sprites Woodland Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907231
Telephone number	07597557185
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

Sprites Woodland Nursery registered in 2014. It operates from a scout hut in Chatham, Kent. The nursery is open all week from 8.30am to 4pm, term time only. There are five members of staff working directly with the children, of whom three are qualified to level 3 and the provider/manager is qualified to level 5. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years, as well as the early years pupil premium funding.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk to learn about the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact on children's learning, both inside and outside.
- The inspector jointly observed children's play with the manager and discussed children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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