

Christchurch Nursery

Ingles Way, FOLKESTONE, Kent, CT20 1ER



Inspection date

9 April 2015

Previous inspection date

10 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The provider shows outstanding commitment to ensuring all staff, including those newly appointed, are given highly effective and dedicated support. This ensures they are suitable and fully prepared for their role in the nursery.
- The quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff provide an exceptional range of high-quality learning experiences for all the children. As a result, children are highly motivated and eager to learn.
- Qualified and experienced staff act as mentors to those less qualified, and provide support and excellent role models. This has a positive impact on the staff practice and the quality of the interactions with the children.
- The management and staff ensure they safeguard children's welfare. They have a comprehensive understanding of child protection issues and know the procedure to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care.
- Staff work particularly well together, which means that the organisation of the nursery is excellent. All staff know the routines and deploy themselves where they can effectively supervise and enrich the children's learning.
- Staff ensure that children follow highly effective hygiene procedures. All children understand they need to wash their hands before eating and do so independently. Some children could explain exactly why they need to wash their hands.
- Children form exceptional relationships with staff who care for them each day. This means children's individual needs are met and children form a strong attachment with the staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the methods for collating and analysing children's progress to include different groupings of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all the areas of the premises that children use.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's development records, their self-evaluation form and key policies.
- The inspector took account of the parents' views through discussions and parent questionnaires.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the director.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their knowledge of how children learn and the children's individual level of development to provide an outstanding range of learning opportunities. The role play areas follow children's interests and extend their learning. For example, children develop an understanding of time when they are called to their pretend ten o'clock hair appointment. Staff maintain excellent relationships with parents, ensuring they are exceptionally well informed about their children's developmental progress. Parents routinely contribute information about children's home learning. Children develop their language particularly well because staff constantly engage them in conversations. Children learn new vocabulary as they listen to stories and use puppets as props. This develops essential skills for learning as children listen, ask questions and solve problems. As a result, staff prepare children extremely well for their next stage of learning or starting school.

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

Staff support children to develop confidence when using equipment and playing safely. For example, they encourage children to use knives to cut up their fruit at snack time and use real tools correctly in the construction area. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their independence. They move between the different rooms and the outdoor area where they are encouraged to self-select their own activities. The very efficient special educational needs coordinator has an excellent relationship with external agencies to support children's individual and specialised needs. He supports the continuity between the nursery and home by running parent courses about enhancing children's communication and outdoor learning. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their physical skills as they run on the school playing field and use the school swimming pool.

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

There are extremely strong levels of accountability across all levels of management and staff, which underpin the shared commitment toward delivering high standards. Highly effective arrangements for recruiting staff, supervision meetings and reviewing staff performance lead to a consistently high level of performance. Leaders monitor staff and develop their knowledge through targeted regular, focused training. Management, staff and parents contribute to an excellent self-evaluation system. Audits and discussions at staff meetings identify how the nursery can improve further. The provider collates and reviews children's development as individuals and as a group to ensure they all make good progress. She uses this information to ensure all children have a broad and balanced range of experiences. However, this system does not easily provide information about different groups of children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127104
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	825398
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	98
Name of provider	Christchurch Nursery School (Folkstone) Limited
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2011
Telephone number	01303 244055

Christchurch Nursery was registered in 1992. It operates in the grounds of Christchurch Primary School in Folkestone, Kent. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 13 staff, all of whom have relevant qualifications to Level 2 and above. One member of staff has Early Years Professional Status and two have foundation degrees in early years. The nursery opens each weekday from 8.30am to 5.30pm, all year, excluding public holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for two-, three-, and four-year-olds.

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