

Snowflakes Day Nursery

Ashford Road, Chartham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 7HN



Inspection date	27 March 2019
Previous inspection date	16 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff establish outstanding relationships with children and get to know them exceptionally well. Children have incredible levels of self-esteem and self-worth.
- Staff effectively keep parents fully informed and involved in their children's progress. For instance, they regularly encourage parents to add to their children's learning records and share their achievements from home.
- Staff support children to develop very good communication skills. For example, they are enthusiastic to make up their own stories with puppets to share with their friends.
- Staff are keen to build on their skills and knowledge even further. They attend regular training beneficial to their practice. For example, they have learned about the different ways to support children to communicate their needs, such as using consistent signing.
- Children gain good skills to support their future learning. They are very independent. For instance, they complete their own tasks, such as serving lunch, with excellent levels of confidence.
- There are good opportunities for children to develop their creative skills. They explore paint in interesting ways, such as making patterns with pipettes.
- Staff do not make the most out of children's opportunities to explore and investigate the natural world even further.
- Staff do not fully encourage all children to develop their skills and interest in early reading using a range of more welcoming and accessible reading resources.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on children's opportunities to explore and investigate the natural world more extensively
- review and improve the range of reading resources, to encourage children to develop their early reading skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff interacting with children and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, children, parents and staff and considered their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager and staff effectively evaluate their practice together. They have daily discussions to reflect on how well the day's activities engaged children. Staff use their findings to develop their future activity plans and keep children interested to learn. The manager closely monitors the quality of care and teaching staff provide children. For example, she carries out regular observations on their practice and provides staff with helpful feedback and highlights any training needs. Staff establish positive partnerships with other early years professionals. For example, they share children's next steps in learning with staff at settings children also attend. This helps provide children with a good, consistent approach to their shared care and learning. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare. Children learn how to keep themselves safe, for example, they regularly practice exiting the building calmly and quickly in the event of a fire.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor and track individual children and differing groups of children and their progress. This enables staff to quickly highlight any gaps in their development and provide good support to help them catch up in their learning swiftly. Staff skilfully support children to prepare for their eventual move to school. For example, younger children explore making marks in materials, such as foam. Older children write simple words with confidence. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who have a keen interest in space, go on to learn about different planets in the solar system.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are incredibly good role models. Children are exceptionally polite and their behaviour is impeccable. All children have outstanding opportunities to challenge their physical skills, such as exploring different ways to move their bodies in regular yoga classes. Children gain an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they discuss the benefits of different food groups on their bodies, such as protein. Children have outstanding respect and understanding of other people's similarities and differences. For instance, they learn about the traditions of other countries as they celebrate Germany's St Martin's Day, Lantern Festival and bake the traditional German cake, Kuchen.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress. Children develop good skills to support their future learning. For example, older children confidently count as they play and younger children enjoy shape sorter activities. Children are imaginative and freely express their ideas, such as when they enjoy a wide range of role-play activities and become 'hairdressers' and 'builders'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483563
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10076348
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	S J Bridgland Holdings Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902319
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2016
Telephone number	01227732124

Snowflakes Day Nursery registered in 2014. It is located in Chartham, Kent. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year around. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs nine members of staff. All of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 2 and level 3.

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