

The Westlands Nursery

Westlands Primary School, Homewood Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1XN



Inspection date

10 May 2017

Previous inspection date

24 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The manager and staff work as a team to effectively evaluate their practice. For example, they observe each other teach and provide each other with helpful and constructive advice. They use the feedback to support their action plans.
- Staff encourage parents to be fully involved in their children's learning. For instance, parents stay and play with their children each morning. Staff help to provide children with a good consistent approach to their shared care and learning.
- Staff build trusting and secure relationships with children. This helps children to settle happily and quickly into play and develop a good sense of belonging.
- All children, including babies have good opportunities to explore and investigate. For example, they explore ice blocks with items inside and watch how they melt.
- Staff effectively support children to understand what to expect from their eventual move to school. For instance, they take part in story times at the primary school.
- Children develop good independence to help them to develop skills for their future. For example, they confidently choose what they want to play with.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide enough opportunities for children to develop an understanding and respect for the similarities and differences of others in the wider world.
- Staff do not always give children enough time to think and respond to questions they ask them, to extend their communication skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the range of ways to develop children's understanding and respect further for the similarities and differences of others in the wider world
- extend opportunities for children so they have time to think and respond to questions staff ask them to develop their communication skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including a sample of policies and procedures, risk assessments and staff training records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the consistency of the quality of children's care and staff's teaching practice. For example, she holds one-to-one meetings with staff to discuss their performance and highlights any strengths and potential training needs. All staff, including the manager are pro-active when ensuring that they keep up to date with new ideas and continue to develop their skills and knowledge further. For instance, they attend beneficial training and learn how to introduce effective letter and sound sessions, to help to develop children's early reading and writing skills. Staff effectively use additional funding to meet children's individual learning needs. The manager and staff establish positive partnerships with other early years professionals. For example, they liaise closely with other settings children also attend to share ideas to support their learning. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow and know who to contact to help to keep children safe and protect their welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor children's progress on a regular basis. This helps them to promptly recognise any gaps in children's development and provide them with individual support to close them quickly. Staff skilfully build on children's interests. For example, children enjoy a story about an astronaut. They watch clips on the internet to learn about space and make three-dimensional planets. All children, including babies have interesting ways to develop their creative skills. For instance, they use spray bottles to make paint pictures and make prints with materials, such as bubble wrap.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff teach children the importance of being polite and children learn how to behave. For example, babies sign please and thank -you and older children recap the nursery rules and understand what is expected of them. Children develop a good understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles. For example, they have an active role in preparing healthy snacks, as they cut and peel fruits, like bananas. Children have good opportunities to exercise daily and participate in music and movement activities. All children, including babies have good opportunities to develop their physical abilities. They negotiate a range of equipment to learn how to climb and balance.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children gain good mathematical skills. They count confidently as they play and enjoy simple sums as they sing number songs. Children develop good social skills and build meaningful friendships. For example, they initiate team games, like musical statues and help each other to complete tasks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY426595
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1094806
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	69
Number of children on roll	110
Name of registered person	Swale Academies Trust
Registered person unique reference number	RP530584
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2015
Telephone number	01795 430629

The Westlands Nursery registered in 2011. It is located in Sittingbourne, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 18 members of staff, 14 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3, one member of staff holds a relevant early years qualification at level 4 and one member of staff holds a relevant early years degree.

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