

Castle Hill Village Nursery Community Interest Company



The Village Sure Start Children's Centre, Denmark Street, Folkestone, CT19 6EQ

Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	14 July 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 staff use excellent quality teaching methods to enable all children to learn and make outstanding progress towards the Early Learning Goals.
- The children demonstrate their inquisitive natures because staff provide an excellent range of good quality, interesting toys and activities, indoors and outside. This helps each child make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Staff are closing the gaps in learning for all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language. In many instances, children are surpassing expectations for their age.
- The children all behave exceptionally well given their starting points and levels of understanding. Even the babies begin to understand sharing as staff use excellent methods to manage their behaviour.
- The manager expertly tracks children's progress to ensure no child, or groups of children, are disadvantaged.
- The nursery has highly effective arrangements to engage in partnership working with other agencies in order to support children and their parents.
- The manager ensures that all staff maintain the children's records meticulously with a strong emphasis on completing health and medication records as thoroughly as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities for babies to develop early writing skills by exploring mark marking in the outdoor area.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a variety of paperwork, including the nursery's safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector observed the interaction between staff and children inside and outdoors.
- The inspector talked to children, parents and staff to gain their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager in the baby room.

Inspector

Linda Coccia

Inspection findings

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

The highly qualified staff demonstrate an excellent understanding of how young children learn and develop. Their experience of observing and assessing children means that they quickly focus on areas where children are not achieving or developing as expected. Accurate assessments inform the activity planning, resulting in an interesting and exciting educational programme. For example, the older children are adept at using the electronic whiteboards to produce music to dance to. Superb activities to practise early writing are available to older children outside, but these are less extensive for the babies. Staff use excellent methods to teach all children the skills needed for speech and communication, including the use of sign language. This is particularly effective in supporting those children who speak English as an additional language. The older children receive excellent support for their moves to school. They are regularly involved in activities with the school Reception class and mix daily with the maintained nursery class led by a qualified teacher.

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

New children settle exceptionally well into the nursery. Staff use highly effective methods to find out about the children before they start. Therefore, care practices have an excellent impact on children's confidence as they move freely around. The babies and toddlers both demonstrate excellent emotional well-being and separate from their carers readily, the youngest children returning regularly to their key person for cuddles and reassurance. Excellent risk assessments, conducted by staff and managers, ensure children are safe from hazards indoors, outside and on outings into the community. Children take risks in their physical play as they use the substantial range of large outdoor play equipment. They understand the rules involved in handling equipment safely, including the safe use of eating utensils at mealtimes. Children demonstrate they feel physically safe in the nursery through their excellent attitudes and demeanours.

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

Managers ensure that staff have a thorough understanding of how to safeguard children through extensive discussion of child protection issues at all staff meetings. The excellent internal procedures reflect those of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The nursery has a designated person for child protection and all staff take individual responsibility for following procedures. Staff keep meticulous records of children's personal details and attendances. The manager records and evaluates the views of all users in order to create an extensive action programme to maintain and further the excellent, continuous improvement of the nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371457
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	829229
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	79
Number of children on roll	161
Name of provider	Castle Hill Village Nursery (Community Interest Company)
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2009
Telephone number	01303 856 200

Castle Hill Village Nursery registered in 2008 and is a community interest group run by Castle Village Nursery (community interest company). It operates from three rooms on the grounds of the Village Sure Start Children's Centre. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area. The nursery receives funding to provide free nursery education for children aged two, three and four. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm five days a week for 49 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 16 members of staff, of whom 14 hold recognised childcare qualifications. One of the staff holds Qualified Teacher Status.

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