

Pennies Day Nursery Ltd

Thornbank, 149 Hockers Lane, Weaving, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 5JY



Inspection date

25 February 2016

Previous inspection date

5 September 2011

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager has exceptionally high expectations of her staff and the children and is inspirational in her leadership.
- Partnerships with other settings that children attend and schools are exceptional. Staff visit and share information about children to ensure all aspects of their care and learning are consistent.
- Staff quickly identify individual children who require additional support and they work exceptionally well with families and other professionals involved in their care.
- Staff offer an extensive range of stimulating activities, resources and experiences for the children, based on their current interests and abilities. Children make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Children are highly motivated and interested to learn in this extremely friendly, welcoming setting. Staff provide exceptional care and support to all children and their families. Key persons build close, nurturing bonds with their children.
- The quality of teaching throughout the nursery is outstanding. Staff are very experienced and well qualified. They complete high-quality observations and accurate assessments to identify children's next steps in their learning.
- Children are confident to take risks according to their age and ability. Staff expertly support them to manage activities safely, for example, climbing trees.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to refine the already highly successful systems for monitoring progress, to show even more clearly any achievement gaps between specific groups of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and from written letters.

Inspector

June Keeler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager regularly monitors and observes staff practice. She uses this information to provide staff with tailored support, coaching and additional training. This helps to constantly extend the quality of teaching. Staff are exceptionally reflective. They update their skills and knowledge to provide children with the best possible learning experiences. Comprehensive and detailed self-evaluation promotes continuous improvement. The manager seeks the views of the parents, children and staff regularly and uses their suggestions to make further improvements. However, the manager recognises the benefits of being more specific in her monitoring of children's progress. For example, she intends to look more closely at the differences in achievement between children born in the summer or winter. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are confident to report concerns that they may have about children in their care. The manager has excellent recruitment procedures and meets with staff frequently to check their ongoing suitability to be working with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are exceptionally skilled at making the most of spontaneous experiences to stimulate, motivate and engage children in their learning. They know each child's stage of learning extremely well and use this to tailor their teaching to support each child effectively. For instance, staff made excellent use of the children's interest in snow to extend their knowledge of the world. They talked to the children about the seasons, temperatures and how to stay safe. Children eagerly try to make shapes with sticks that they have collected from the woods. They work together to find sticks to make different shapes and discuss why certain shapes, such as circles, cannot be made.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely happy. Staff have excellent relationships with parents and use the information they share to provide relevant activities and experiences. For example, parents talk to staff about their children's interests outside of the nursery. Staff provide activities such as stepping stones to support children's balance and coordination skills further. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They share, take turns and respect each other's views and ideas.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly motivated and eager to learn. They are extremely independent and make excellent progress in their learning. Children are prepared exceptionally well for the next steps in their learning. For example, they develop excellent communication and language skills. Children listen intently to other children and staff and confidently join in with group activities, such as acting out familiar stories.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127442
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	825423
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	103
Name of provider	Pennies Day Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	5 September 2011
Telephone number	01622 630207

Pennies Day Nursery registered in 1999. It is situated in Weaving, near Maidstone, Kent. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6.30pm each weekday throughout the year, with the exception of public holidays. The provider employs 18 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Four members of staff hold Early Years Professional Status. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery supports disabled children and those who have special educational needs.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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