

Inspection of Kids Inc Day Nursery

Kids Inc Nurseries, Unit Wvl24, The Village, Bluewater, Greenhithe, Kent DA9 9SE

Inspection date: 20 January 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

All children have fun and progress well. Babies form strong bonds with their key person. They develop the confidence to explore their environment, quickly learning that there is a cuddle waiting for them when they need comfort or reassurance. One-year-old children receive the same nurturing care as they engage in activities specifically planned to help them develop their social skills. They happily play alongside other children, for example as they explore the properties of resources such as cornflour mixed with water.

Older children develop independence in their learning and join in with activities enthusiastically. They engage in animated conversations with their friends and with staff. Children concentrate well, for example as they construct buildings and roadways. Children enjoy looking at books and staff skilfully build on this interest. For example, a recent fascination with a book about volcanoes led to an activity to make a model volcano and discussions about features such as lava.

Children are friendly, polite and behave very well. Staff use positive and consistent methods to support children to understand what is expected of them, and offer gentle reminders when necessary. Children learn, from an early age, to listen to others, share and take turns. This helps them to develop important social skills and to prepare them for their future learning.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Leadership and management is inspirational. The newly established senior management team has extremely high aspirations. Regional managers have spent time evaluating all aspects of the nursery's practices and the impact they have on staff and children. They have developed a very accurate knowledge of the strengths and areas where improvement is needed. They are currently implementing a precisely targeted package of support that reflects the unique needs of the nursery.
- All staff, including apprentices, receive a great deal of support to continually develop their professional skills and knowledge. They benefit from an extensive range of training opportunities and receive regular one-to-one supervision.
- Staff work very well together, creating an efficient service that is centred around promoting the well-being of children. Staff communicate highly effectively within each room and throughout the nursery. The personalities, preferences and developmental needs of each child are fully understood and their moves between rooms are managed sensitively.
- The member of staff who coordinates the care for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities has a detailed knowledge of the very specific needs of each child. She works closely with their key person, parents

and outside agencies to agree and constantly update individual care plans.

- Children play and learn in an environment that is rich in language. Staff working with all age groups speak clearly to children as they play, introducing new vocabulary and modelling good grammar.
- While teaching is strong overall, some areas of learning are promoted more effectively than others. Children enjoy regular opportunities to engage in physical play. The babies in particular benefit from using a range of resources that help to develop their mobility. The layout of the nursery means that rooms used by older children do not have easy access to the outdoor play space. There is a timetable to ensure all children spend time outside each day. However, this has not been organised as effectively as possible to make the very best use of this popular space.
- Children's creativity is promoted through games such as role play. Staff teach children a lot of skills to support their expressive art and design, including using scissors, mixing paint effects and using a variety of tools to make marks. However, staff sometimes plan art activities a little too rigidly. This results in children creating artwork that all looks similar rather than using the techniques they have learned to express their own ideas. This is an area that has been identified for improvement by the senior management team.
- Changes have been made to the way in which information about children's progress is shared with their parents. For example, staff write a letter to each child that summarises their learning and sets out what is planned for them in the immediate future. These have proved very popular with parents, who feed back that the letters offer a personal touch that shows how well staff know their children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of safeguarding matters, including the risks associated with extreme views and behaviours. They complete regular training to keep their knowledge up to date and know the procedures to follow should they have concerns about the welfare of any child. There are also clear and appropriate arrangements to respond to any allegations against staff. The leadership team responds promptly to address any weaknesses identified in safety or security at the setting.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review and improve the organisations of some aspects of the daily routine to maximise the support for children who like to spend time outdoors and to enhance further the opportunities for older children to engage in active play

- support staff to understand how to enable children to use the artistic skills and techniques they learn to explore their own ideas and to express themselves in their artwork.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2529956
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10218425
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	106
Number of children on roll	140
Name of registered person	Blueberry Enterprises Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905981
Telephone number	0208 598 2600
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Kids Inc Day Nursery registered in 2019. It is one of 12 nurseries owned by the same provider. The nursery operates from premises in the grounds of the Blue Water retail park. It is open from 7.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday throughout the year. The nursery receives funding to provide early education for children aged three and four years. There are 32 staff, 20 of whom hold qualifications at level 2 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager led the inspector on a walk around all areas of the setting and explained the intent behind the educational programmes for each room.
- The inspector observed the interaction of staff and children engaged in a broad variety of activities.
- The views of parents, expressed face-to-face and in writing, were taken into account.
- The inspector read a selection of relevant documentation.

We carried out this inspection 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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