

Inspection of Bubbles Nursery and Out of School Club

Wilmott Place, Sandwich CT13 0QB

Inspection date: 25 May 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy, settled and extremely sociable. They spend much of their time laughing and chatting as they enjoy the broad range of experiences on offer. All children demonstrate a secure understanding of the routines of the day. They are becoming very independent, confident learners. For example, pre-school children make great use of the large, well-equipped craft room. They independently select resources and create wonderfully imaginative and unique artwork. The youngest children also enjoy their freedom to explore resources or to snuggle up with a member of staff, engrossed as they look at a book together.

Babies receive very warm, caring interactions from staff. These help them to feel secure and settled. For example, they drift off to sleep in their cots as their foreheads are gently stroked. Older children achieve well due to the strong teaching and high levels of encouragement from staff. They show consideration for others in their behaviour, often offering to help their friends or staff complete tasks. These skills, along with their positive attitudes to learning, prepare them well for the future.

Children separate from their parents at the nursery door, due to COVID-19 (coronavirus) restrictions. They benefit from observing the friendly exchanges between the staff and their parents.

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

- The manager and staff team have worked hard to improve all aspects of their care and teaching successfully. Teamworking is very effective, creating a positive environment where children make good progress.
- Well-planned experiences help children to build on what they have learned. For example, staff set up an activity to make play dough. They originally taught the children how to measure and mix the ingredients. Over time, children have practised these skills and can now produce a batch of dough with very little adult input. They have been able to transfer these skills to activities such as baking.
- The manager fully considers the views and needs of children and staff when making improvements. For example, she has recently completely reorganised the use of the indoor space. This has had a very positive impact on children's learning and enjoyment. The manager is aware that the use of space outdoors is not as effective.
- There are times when a large number of different activities take place at once in the outdoor spaces. This has an impact on the success children have in practising some skills. For example, activities such as kicking a football are restricted as some children are riding scooters and others are engaging in role play in the same area.

- The support for children to develop their physical skills is strong overall. Staff provide babies with resources and activities that help them to develop strength and coordination. All children, other than the non-walking babies, take part in a daily exercise session to music. This is a hugely popular and eagerly anticipated part of the session. Children learn, through regular practice, to move their bodies in a range of ways. They feel their heartbeats to understand the impact that exercise has on their bodies.
- All staff skilfully support children to form sentences, and they provide many opportunities for them to join in conversations and express their views. There is less consistency in the focus on teaching children new vocabulary.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well, using warm interactions and humour to engage them and to help settle minor issues effectively. Where necessary, staff give clear explanations to help children understand why some behaviour is not wanted.
- There are good arrangements to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children's individual needs are understood by all staff, and information-sharing with parents and other professionals is effective. The manager gives good consideration to the way that she spends additional funding.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Those parents who gave feedback for the inspection praised the manager and staff highly. They felt well-informed, and all said that their children loved attending and were making good progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager takes the lead for child protection in the nursery and fully understands the responsibilities of her role. She ensures that staff attend regular safeguarding training and uses a range of methods to test that their knowledge is up to date. Staff understand the potential signs that may indicate that a child is at risk, including the risks posed by exposure to extreme views. The arrangements for sharing and reporting concerns are appropriate. A full risk assessment was completed when the environment was reorganised, and staff check the premises for any potential hazards on a daily basis.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen further the teaching of language to include greater support for children to develop new vocabulary
- monitor and improve the organisation of activities and resources in the outdoor spaces to enable children to focus more fully on mastering specific skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479041
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10145287
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 at time of inspection	1 to 7
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Alpha Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900801
Telephone number	01304 615487
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2020

Information about this early years setting

Bubbles Nursery and Out of School Club registered in 2014 and is located in Sandwich, Kent. It is one of 30 nurseries owned by Alpha Nurseries Ltd. The nursery is open five days a week from 7.30am to 6pm, for most of the year. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs eight members of staff, seven of whom work directly with children. Six staff members hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager led the inspector on a learning walk and discussed the intentions behind the educational programme.
- A joint observation was completed by the manager and the inspector.
- The inspector carried out a range of observations and tracked the experiences of a number of children.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector scrutinised a selection of key documents.
- Discussions took place with a number of parents, and others provided written feedback for the inspector.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2021