

Inspection of Grayswood Nursery School

Grayswood Village Hall, Grayswood Road, Grayswood, HASLEMERE, Surrey GU27 2DJ

Inspection date:

28 April 2025

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



What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in this outstanding nursery. They are full of enthusiasm as they arrive and immerse themselves deeply in free play and group time sessions. They come together with staff to share thoughts, review the day ahead and discuss rules and boundaries. Managers and staff have created a calm, nurturing and respectful environment where children develop a strong sense of belonging and feel cherished. This contributes to their positive emotional well-being and selfassurance.

Children thrive in the outdoor spaces that are available to them, and staff seamlessly challenge them in their learning. Highly experienced staff provide extensive opportunities to develop physical skills, such as balancing, core strength, coordination and agility. For instance, children gain confidence and persevere as staff guide them to walk along slacklines stretched and fixed between two trees. They are comforted, reassured and directed exceptionally well by staff, who encourage them to think about each step and hand movement they make. This helps children to develop trust and feel secure as they push themselves further to acquire new skills. Children's concentration and determination is to be admired.

Staff are excellent role models, and children rise to staff's high expectations for behaviour. The strong, trusting relationships that staff have built with children help them feel safe and promote positive behaviour and attitudes. In turn, children are highly motivated to learn. They are polite, kind and courteous.

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

- The exceptional leadership and management team provides excellent enabling environments for children and staff. Staff receive tailored training to help them enhance their expertise further. For example, staff share their enthusiasm for attending the upcoming training, which is about ropes and ladders. They are keen to learn new skills to support children's physical development in the forest school area. The managers and leaders are highly reflective. They work closely with the staff team and strive for excellence. Staff are valued and share they are proud to be part of the team.
- Dedicated staff undertake training and work closely with other professionals and parents to create individual learning support plans for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff thoughtfully adapt activities and the environment to ensure that children with SEND receive the same opportunities for challenge, goals and aspirations as their friends. As a result, children with SEND make excellent progress from their starting points.
- Managers and staff are committed to providing exceptional care and learning for all children. They have created a curriculum that helps children remember,



challenges their learning and builds on what they know. Attention is given to supporting children's personal development. Children stay at activities for sustained periods and show high levels of engagement. The intention for children's learning is securely understood and embedded through staff interactions, activities and provision. Children's learning is limitless and promoted in all areas of development.

- Staff interact with children in a way that excites and inspires them. The consistent flow of conversations helps children to learn how to add and respond effectively to spoken words. Furthermore, children's communication and language skills are developed through staff reading stories and singing. The library system in place supports targeted home-reading strategies, which encourage children to develop a love of books.
- Children demonstrate impressive behaviours as they offer to help at mealtimes, tidy up and display superb manners. Staff teach children the importance of oral health and sing songs about brushing their teeth. In addition, healthy lifestyles are promoted as children grow their own vegetables from seeds. Children are heavily involved in the whole process, from choosing what they would like to grow to buying the seeds from the local garden centre. They relish the responsibility of watering and monitoring the vegetables. The child's voice is valued, and children learn cause and effect as they develop a sense of achievement.
- Staff appreciate each child's individual interests, cultures and beliefs. Staff know children incredibly well and understand their unique characters and lived experiences. Knowledge is used to strengthen areas needed to develop further. Managers and staff go above and beyond to promote children's experiences outside the setting. For instance, they plan trips around children's fascinations, such as going on the train to view buildings of interest in big cities and visiting butterfly sanctuaries. The children's understanding of the world is supported remarkably well.
- Parent partnerships are highly effective and exceptionally well-established. Relationships with parents and other professionals are trusting and respectful and help children thrive in their learning as they work together on shared goals and support smooth transitions. Parents are exceedingly happy with the care and education their children are receiving and are eager to share their views.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.



Setting details	
Unique reference number	120049
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10388314
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	3 to 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	Grayswood Nursery School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910797
Telephone number	01428 658931
Date of previous inspection	5 July 2019

Information about this early years setting

Grayswood Nursery School opened originally in 1981 and registered in 1992. The nursery operates from Grayswood Village Hall, near Haslemere in Surrey. Opening times are Monday to Friday, during term time only, from 9am to 12.30pm, with additional sessions until 2.45pm. The nursery also provides forest school learning. The nursery has 10 staff, six of whom hold recognised childcare and/or forest school training qualifications. The nursery provides government funded early years places.

Information about this inspection

Inspector Kelley Ellis



Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while at the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the staff and children.
- The manager carried out a joint observation of a physical activity with the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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