

DCSF / NDNA Quality Case Study

Fledgelings Nursery, Ramsgate, Kent

Background

Fledgelings Nursery was established in 1986. It is housed in a converted chapel. The setting has a library and a room for babies and toddlers (age 3 months to 3 years) on the ground floor; and a large hall for pre-school children (3 to 5 years) on the upper floor.

The setting is open from 7.30am to 6pm all year round.

The setting is situated on the East Kent coast, in the Thanet Ward. It serves a deprived area taking children from diverse backgrounds, financially, socially and culturally.

The setting is registered for 67 children and occupancy has been around 98% for several years.

Development

Fledgelings was one of the first providers to be inspected under the EYFS criteria in October 2008. The setting received an overall rating of 'Good' with an 'Outstanding' for their work with parents and partnerships.

Quality

All staff at Fledgelings are qualified to at least Level 2 and around 80% of staff are at Level 3 or higher. A member of staff was recently nominated for the NDNA Nursery Nurse of the Year Award and came third.

Management work closely with Early Years staff to identify further areas for development. According to owner Joanne Barton, "Local Early Years staff have made a significant contribution in helping us to improve quality." The help received from Early Years has been of particular importance in preparing for the change to the inspection criteria under the EYFS.

Fledgelings have regular parent evenings and workshops for parents which are organised by the Friends of Fledglings group. This group has recently sent out a questionnaire to all parents asking what activities parents would like to see at the setting in future months.

The setting has been nominated by their Area Senco Co-ordinator to take part in the accreditation process for the ICAN Early Talk Accreditation Award. This involves an extensive audit of all communications policies and requires all staff to be trained in the ICAN curriculum. The setting is scheduled to be inspected for this significant award on 11 February 2009. According to owner, Joanne Barton, "When Fledgelings achieve the ICAN Accreditation we will be able to offer a more supportive service in enhancing children's communication skills."

Context

The setting is in the Nethercourt Ward in the District of Thanet. Parts of this Ward are listed as deprived lower level Super Output Areas for the purposes of the Government's Deprivation Index.

Nursery Details

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