

Inspection of Chiddingfold Village Nursery School

Chiddingfold Village Hall, Coxcombe Lane, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Surrey GU8
4QF

Inspection date:

17 September 2025

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Leaders do not fulfil the requirement to notify Ofsted about changes to the management committee. This means that suitability checks have not been completed by Ofsted to ensure every individual is suitable for their role. In addition, there are some inconsistencies in the record-keeping arrangements to demonstrate the suitability checks for some staff. Despite this, current leaders demonstrate a positive commitment to addressing these weaknesses.

Children are happy and content at this nursery. Friendly staff greet children individually as they arrive, full of enthusiasm. Staff take the time to talk to parents and gather information about anything needed to support children during the day. They thoughtfully plan the environment and activities around children's interests. As a result, children eagerly scan the room before spotting things that spark their curiosity. This helps them settle in quickly and become immersed in play.

Children receive strong support from staff, which helps them to feel emotionally secure. Staff work hard to build nurturing and trusting bonds, including with children new to the nursery. Children show confidence and seek familiar staff for comfort and support. Staff respect children and their personal care routines. This helps children feel valued and develop a positive sense of belonging.

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

- Leaders have not informed Ofsted about changes to the management committee. Consequently, Ofsted has not been able to complete all necessary suitability checks for individuals with oversight of the nursery. However, the management committee does not have any unsupervised access to children or their personal information. Therefore, to date, there has been no significant impact on children.
- Leaders have procedures in place to ensure the suitability of the staff they employ. However, leaders do not ensure that all required information regarding vetting and suitability checks is recorded. Additionally, on occasions, leaders have not followed their own safer recruitment procedures in relation to obtaining references for new staff. This demonstrates some weaknesses in the recruitment procedures.
- The curriculum in place is broad, well balanced and effective. Staff understand the curriculum priorities. They intertwine these with children's interests and developmental stages when planning activities and play experiences. Staff know what they want to teach children next and why, planning tailored next steps to support them to achieve. This supports all children to make the good progress they are capable of.
- Overall, the interactions children receive are of high quality. Staff quickly identify

children's immediate curiosities and extend them well. For instance, when children draw rockets using chunky chinks outside, staff build on this interest by inviting children to carry out further research on space. This sparks conversations about what planet Earth might look like from outer space, which further fuels children's play and learning. However, on occasions, children who are quieter or less confident are not supported by staff to join in activities. As a result, these children do not always benefit from the same level of interaction as others and are not always as engaged in their learning.

- All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, have ample opportunities to develop their communication and language skills. Staff narrate children's play appropriately, talk clearly and expose children to a variety of new words through conversation and storytelling. These opportunities support all children's growing vocabulary.
- Staff are positive role models for children. They support play and give gentle reminders for behavioural expectations, such as no running indoors. They provide children with age-appropriate explanations to support their developing understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Staff praise children's kindness as they take turns and play imaginatively in small groups. This supports children's growing understanding of behavioural expectations and supports their developing social connections.
- Leaders and staff work hard to develop positive parental relationships in this nursery and strive to be an important part of the local community. Children have opportunities to learn about the local community, including participating in regular trips to broaden their understanding of the world around them. Parents are highly complimentary of the two-way flow of information sharing and of the care and education their children receive.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that Ofsted is provided with the necessary information to enable them to carry out suitability checks for all management committee members	17/10/2025

ensure information is recorded which details staff vetting processes and DBS information to demonstrate their suitability.	17/10/2025
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To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- support staff to consistently ensure all children, particularly those who are quieter or less confident, receive the same high level of interactions to promote their engagement in learning fully.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119986
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10413582
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	2 to 3
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Chiddingfold Village Nursery School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522727
Telephone number	07957 097049
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2020

Information about this early years setting

Chiddingfold Village Nursery School registered in 1992. It is located in Chiddingfold, Surrey. The nursery is open term time only, Monday to Friday, from 8.15am to 2.45pm. The nursery employs eight childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Natalie Moir

Inspection activities

- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to the staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- A lead practitioner carried out a joint observation of a planned activity with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with 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.

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