

Class of their Own @ Downs Junior School



Downs Junior School, Rugby Road, BRIGHTON, BN1 6ED

Inspection date	18 February 2015
Previous inspection date	16 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff are very welcoming and friendly. Key persons use extremely effective strategies to help settle children in, showing a genuine interest in each child as an individual. Relationships between children and staff are excellent. This helps children to settle quickly and feel secure.
- Staff practice is consistently excellent. Staff use their expert knowledge to engage children and encourage them to develop to their full potential.
- There is a highly stimulating indoor environment with a very broad range of innovative activities, which fully occupy and challenge children. The outdoor area also provides an excellent environment for children although with less opportunities for them to choose what to do.
- Managers use highly effective recruitment and induction procedures to ensure that all staff are highly skilled and have a very clear understanding of how to support children.
- Staff take excellent measures to promote children's good health and meet their care needs highly successfully. For example, the manager has developed an allergy/special needs book so that all staff are made aware of children's specific requirements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the children's opportunities to make choices and decisions about what they wish to play with in the outside areas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff's interaction in the inside and outside area of the club.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and parents during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including the safeguarding policy, the medication and accident records, and the children's registration and attendance records.
- The inspector and manager to undertook a joint observation of children at snack time.
- The inspector held discussions with the company director, the area manager, area coordinator and the manager. Discussions included recruitment processes, evaluation methods, planning of children's activities, how the outside area is used and methods for keeping children safe.

Inspector

Jacqueline Walter

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children relish attending and are fully involved in the club. For example, they write plans for what they would like to do in the future which staff follow. This means children thoroughly enjoy participating and feel a great sense of belonging. They thoroughly enjoy an extensive range of exciting activities. For example, children talked enthusiastically about how they made chocolate earlier in the day. Children quickly make friends when they start attending which helps them to settle in and become extremely confident in choosing activities. They relish engaging in group activities, for instance when catching and discussing the sizes and shapes of bubbles they have created.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Staff give very clear messages that help children gain an excellent understanding of a healthy lifestyle. They plan a rich range of related activities for children, such as making vegetarian samosas. Children enjoy innovative physical activities, such as using a tight rope. Staff understand that children need to learn about risk. They allow children to use a balancing ball despite falling off it repeatedly but keep an eye on them from a distance to ensure they do not hurt themselves. Staff are skilled in dealing with children's behaviour. For example, they use lots of praise and encouragement and make suggestions that help children seek alternative solutions to any minor skirmishes. Staff make excellent use of praise to effectively encourage the children's perseverance, so they complete activities successfully.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

Leaders and managers ensure staff understand their roles and implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to the very highest standards. They use highly successful strategies to complement children's learning in school through their planning of club activities. Staff hold regular meetings with parents, head teachers and have daily conversations with the school staff. This helps them to meet children's needs extremely effectively. Staff are extremely vigilant in safeguarding children. They thoroughly risk assess the premises and any outings, and know what to do in the event of child protection concerns. Leaders drive improvement highly successfully. For example, they recognised the need for staff to improve their communication with children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff undertook training in sign language and introduced the use of tablet computers for these children. This has had an extremely positive impact on children's communication skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350210
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	837891
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	Class Of Their Own Ltd
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2011
Telephone number	07902936532

Class of their Own @ Downs Junior School registered in 2007. It operates from the Downs Junior School in Brighton. The club is open each weekday from 8am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 6pm during term time. During school holidays, it is open from 8.30am until 6pm. The company employs eight members of staff at this club. Of these, six staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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