

The Good Start School

The Good Start School, The Street, Poynings, BRIGHTON, BN45 7AQ



Inspection date

17 June 2015

Previous inspection date

23 November 2011

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of the teaching is good. Staff listen to children and follow their interests, planning appropriate activities to build on individual children's learning. As a result, children make good progress.
- Staff build good partnerships with parents which promote consistency for children. The key-person system works well to build children's self-esteem and confidence. As a result, they are well prepared for their next steps in learning and are motivated to learn.
- Staff are good role models. They use effective ways to manage behaviour and, as a result, children are well behaved, polite and kind to others.
- The staff team has good links with local schools and this helps to promote continuity in meeting children's needs. It also helps children's move to school to be as seamless as possible.
- Management and staff constantly reflect on the provision. This enables them to clearly identify areas of strength and development in order to improve children's learning experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Strategies to build further on the good teaching practice by enabling staff to observe each other's practice and learn from each other are not yet fully embedded.
- There are fewer opportunities for children who learn better outdoors to recognise words and print when outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen staff skills and children's learning further by providing more opportunities for staff to share practice and learn from one another
- enhance opportunities for children who learn better outside to recognise letters and print when playing outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to both managers at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to and engaged with children at appropriate times during the inspection, observing their play activities and snack routine.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a range of relevant documents, including policies, procedures and risk assessment records.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager

Inspector

Nadia Mahabir

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good because the well-qualified staff know how to help children learn and have a strong knowledge and understanding of the areas of learning. Children independently choose activities and display high levels of engagement and enjoyment in learning. For example, they develop a good understanding of the natural world as they excitedly examine caterpillars, learn about life cycles and grow vegetables in the outdoor area. At the inspection, children enthusiastically participated in familiar stories as staff read the story with a lively voice so that children were excited to repeat familiar rhyming words and to predict what might happen next. Staff's ability to motivate children helps to prepare them well for their next stage in learning. Staff carry out regular observations and assessments to ensure that they have an accurate understanding of what children can do and how to plan for the next steps in each child's learning. As a result, all children make good progress.

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

Children happily enter the well-organised learning environment. They are calm and settled as the staff are very caring and give high priority to all children's needs and opinions. All children develop their physical skills very well in their outdoor play and by using a range of climbing and balancing equipment. Staff actively promote children's awareness of safety and use robust risk assessments to keep them safe. Older children display confidence, independence and manage their personal needs well. The setting provides appetising and nutritious meals that meet with children's dietary needs and help ensure they remain healthy. Parents speak positively about the setting and staff, saying that they create a caring environment and make learning fun for their children.

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

Staff have a good knowledge of their responsibility to safeguard children and know how to report any concerns they may have about a child. The management team follows robust recruitment systems, including detailed checks, to ensure the suitability of staff. The manager carries out regular supervision and monitoring of staff's work to identify any coaching and training needs. Staff make good use of what they learn to improve learning experiences for children. For example, following training they introduced dressing-up clothes and role play resources to help children develop their imaginative play outside. The manager carefully monitors children's progress to identify any gaps in the learning of individuals and groups of children. She also uses this information to feed back to the local authority to help with its evaluation of children's developmental progress across the area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429233
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	823495
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Rachel Wilkinson and Michelle O'Neill Partnership
Date of previous inspection	23 November 2011
Telephone number	01273 857 411

The Good Start School is privately owned and registered in 2011. It operates from the former village school in Poyings, near Henfield, West Sussex. It opens Monday to Thursday from 8.45am to 3.30pm and from 8.45am to 12.30pm on a Friday, during term time only. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. There is a staff team of six, including the manager. Of these, five staff hold appropriate early years qualifications and one holds a degree.

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