

Alfriston Pre-School

Alfriston War Memorial Hall, The Tye, Alfriston, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5TL



Inspection date

24 June 2015

Previous inspection date

10 February 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

- Staff are effective role models for children to learn good manners and behaviour expectations. Therefore, children are polite and behave well.
- Staff constantly introduce mathematical ideas and language during play. Consequently, children have a good understanding.
- Staff meet children's individual needs well. Children are confident, happy and have secure and trusting relationships with the staff.
- Staff plan a wide range of activities that help children develop their independence and social skills. This prepares children well for school.
- The staff interact with children in a positive way. As a result, they develop good communication, listening and speaking skills.
- The management is determined to make continuous improvements. They use a variety of ways to evaluate practice effectively. Staff show dedication to provide all children with a good quality learning environment and opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always manage changes in routine well and this results in some children becoming restless at times.
- Staff miss opportunities to develop older children's recognition of letters, familiar words and signs in the environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to learn and recognise letters and familiar words
- Review and improve the organisation of changes in the daily routine to fully engage all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the setting that children use.
- The inspector observed staff interaction with the children.
- The inspector sampled written documentation, including children's progress reports, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to children, gathered parents' views and spoke to staff.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a wide range of activities to engage children in extending their development in all areas. They skilfully extend children's learning. For example, children enjoyed painting self-portraits and staff helped them make links as they used mirrors and had discussions. Staff use a variety of methods to develop children's listening and speaking skills. They use a range of questions that successfully challenge children's thinking and problem-solving skills. This prepares children well for school. Staff actively engage parents in their children's learning. They welcome parent volunteers, encourage parents' contributions to their children's learning records and have detailed discussions. Parents speak highly of their involvement and the level of communication. This promotes continuity in children's development and makes effective links between home and the pre-school.

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

Children settle quickly. They seek staff out for support and enjoy hugs. Children start conversations and share jokes. Staff have good links with other professionals and work closely with the local school. This helps ensure there is a consistent approach to supporting children's learning and development. There are good links with schools, meaning children receive support for a smooth move. Staff encourage discussions that help children understand the importance of caring for others and living things. For example, they water their sunflowers and regularly explore nature in the local community. Children enjoy keeping active and develop good physical skills, for example, as they use their bodies to negotiate an obstacle course. They learn about healthy eating and keeping themselves well as they follow hygiene routines and have discussions with staff.

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

Staff complete risk assessments daily to ensure the environment is safe. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection procedures to help ensure the safety and welfare of children. Management regularly monitors practice and continues to make positive changes. For example, staff took part in training to ensure children's planning is more individual and accurate. As a result, all children make good progress. There is a good number of well-qualified staff. However, all staff continue to develop their knowledge, through training and supervision meetings. They keep up to date with new thinking and ideas that have a positive impact on children's learning. The manager follows robust procedures to ensure the suitability of staff. Staff effectively support children who require additional support. Therefore, all children make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507907
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	842249
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	26
Name of provider	Alfriston Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2011
Telephone number	07812 335981

Alfriston Pre-School registered in 1971. It operates from the War Memorial Hall in Alfriston, East Sussex. The pre-school group opens each weekday from 9am to 1pm on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, and from 9am to 3pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-olds. The pre-school employs six staff, four of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. One member of staff has a level 6 qualification, two have level 3 qualifications and one member of staff has Qualified Teacher Status.

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