

Chichester Nursery School, Children and Family Centre



Chichester Nursery School, St. James Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7AB

Inspection date	9 September 2015
Previous inspection date	20 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The expertise of the staff team means children benefit from exceptional support in their learning and development. Consequently, they are very well prepared for starting school.
- Children form excellent relationships with the staff that look after them. Staff are highly attentive and extremely responsive to each child's personal needs.
- Children develop a real thirst for learning. They are highly motivated to find things out, to do things by themselves and to show sustained interest and concentration in activities. As a result, all children, including those who need extra support, make rapid progress in their learning and development.
- The headteacher and senior leadership team have made extensive improvements to the nursery since the last inspection. They work tirelessly to support staff and ensure children benefit from early years provision of the highest quality.
- Meticulous attention is given to keeping children safe. Staff are extremely vigilant and have an excellent awareness of what to do if they are concerned about a child.
- The partnership working with the nursery school, and children and family centre, mean children and families benefit from extensive support. This has a very positive impact on the progress children make in their learning. Parents describe the nursery and staff as 'amazing'. One parent told the inspector: 'I wouldn't want to change a thing'.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maintain the high quality teaching to ensure boys always achieve as well as girls.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out on the registered provision of the 'up to 3s' part of Chichester Nursery School, Children and Family Centre. The other aspects of the provision are subject to different inspection arrangements. These reports can be found at: www.gov.uk/ofsted.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the support for children's learning both inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff about how they plan for each child's learning needs and how they monitor the progress children make.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations; one with the headteacher and one with the nursery manager, to evaluate the quality of teaching and support for children's learning.
- The inspector discussed the leadership and management of the nursery with the nursery manager, the deputy headteacher and the headteacher to evaluate how well development areas are identified and improvements are made.
- The inspector talked to the children and asked them what they enjoyed doing at nursery.
- The inspector talked to parents who were available and sought their views on the quality of the nursery and how it impacted on their children's learning and development.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including records to show the progress children make in their learning, staff files, safeguarding reports, and confirmation checks that staff have been deemed suitable to work with children.

Inspector

Jo Caswell HMI

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The rapid improvement seen in the quality of practice is a direct result of intensive support, rigorous performance monitoring and highly effective intervention. Concerted action has been taken to enhance the quality of teaching through role modelling, training and direct support. This has had an outstanding impact on staff confidence and ability to consistently provide the highest standards of teaching. Management at all levels is extremely effective and allows performance to be continually monitored and reviewed. Safeguarding arrangements are highly effective and contribute towards keeping all children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy their day at nursery and arrive enthusiastically and ready to learn. Staff plan an exceptional range of activities both inside and outside, and are highly skilled in responding to children's spontaneous ideas. For example, a chalk mark on the stone lizard in the garden prompted a group of four, two-year-old boys to undertake an extensive range of activities, including measuring the mark, playing creatively to 'care' for the lizard as the mark was perceived to be a 'scratch' and considering in detail how the 'scratch' could have happened. Without exception, staff are highly skilled in 'tuning-in' to children; listening carefully to what children say or gesture, and responding appropriately. The care provided for babies is exceptional. There is extensive support for their language and communication development. Babies thrive in the highly stimulating, safe and happy environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Extremely warm and caring relationships between all children and staff mean children flourish in the nursery. Babies and children develop strong relationships with the staff and this enables them to feel confident and secure in their care. New children quickly develop a strong bond with the staff and spontaneously go to them for comfort and support, holding up their hands when they want to be cuddled. There are excellent opportunities for children to develop independence as they serve themselves at the 'buffet breakfast' and show increasing skill in taking care of themselves. Staff frequently offer children relevant choices. They empower children to make their own decisions, to clearly understand right from wrong and to develop close friendships with the other children.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Scrupulous monitoring of children's progress means any potential 'gaps' in children's learning are planned for and closed. Some children start at nursery with skills that are below those expected for their age. Through intensive support, they make rapid progress and catch up very quickly. Meticulous planning is now in place to ensure that boys' learning needs continue to be planned for to ensure they always achieve as well as girls.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY301600
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1006097
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Chichester Nursery School Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	20 November 2014
Telephone number	01243 642950

Chichester Nursery School, Children and Family Centre registered in 2005. The registered provision is for children aged under three years. It operates from a purpose built building, which also accommodates the children and family centre, and a maintained nursery school. There are currently 58 children aged under three years on roll. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 8am until 6pm, throughout the year. It supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and children who speak English as an additional language. A team of 14 staff work directly with the children, all except two are qualified in early years. One member of staff holds Early Years Teacher Status. The nursery is overseen by the headteacher and the governing body.

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