

My First Word... grows up

Ditchling Road, Brighton, BN1 6JG



Inspection date	15 March 2016
Previous inspection date	30 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers have effectively implemented many improvements since the last inspection. This has had a good impact on how staff meet children's care and learning needs.
- Staff effectively plan and provide a wide range of activities that promote children's good progress. They respond well to children's individual interests.
- Staff are skilled in talking to children to help them develop strong communication and language skills. For example, they ask careful questions that challenge children to think. This prepares children well for their future learning.
- Staff are good role models and are kind and caring in their interactions with children. This supports children's understanding of how to behave well. For example, children learn to share toys and take turns in their play.
- Relationships with parents are effective. Staff involve them in their children's learning and share information with them regularly. This helps them to support their children's learning further at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not effectively plan large-group activities to ensure they fully engage all children.
- On occasions, staff do not strengthen children's understanding of how they are unique in terms of their similarities and differences, in particular in relation to their cultural heritage.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation and planning of large-group activities, to engage and involve all children fully
- strengthen children's understanding of how they are unique in terms of their similarities and differences, in particular in relation to their cultural heritage.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and talked to leaders, staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications, and relevant policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled children's observations, planning and assessment records.

Inspector

Ann Murray

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers are committed to making continuous improvements. For example, they use action plans carefully to evaluate the provision. This helps them to enhance staff practice and improve outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are clear about the procedures to follow if they have concerns about the welfare of a child. They undertake regular risk assessments to help them to keep children safe. Managers follow careful recruitment procedures to help them ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff receive regular coaching sessions and ongoing training to support them to improve their practice further. Managers ensure staff build effective partnerships with the other early years settings children attend. This helps them to maintain consistency in meeting children's care and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff skilfully track children's good progress. This supports them to identify any gaps in children's learning, which they swiftly act to close. They carry out regular assessments of the progress each child makes. They use their observations of children effectively to help them to identify children's next steps in learning. Staff share this information well with parents. Staff know the children well and support them to explore their surroundings independently. They promote children's creative skills well. For example, young children enjoy craft activities, and demonstrate confidence as they use small tools, developing their fine muscles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop strong bonds with staff, which helps them to feel safe and secure. They settle happily in the welcoming environment and enjoy accessing a good range of resources. Staff teach children effectively about the significance of healthy lifestyles. For example, they provide children with healthy foods and daily opportunities for exercise in the garden and at the park. Children develop good levels of self-esteem and respect for others. They play well alongside their peers and learn to listen to the views of others, for example, during circle times.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress based on their starting points and obtain important skills to support their future learning. Children learn, from a young age, to become independent. For example, they serve their own meals and manage their own belongings. They also develop good physical skills and access large play equipment confidently. Children develop good mathematical skills. For example, they participate in counting as they play, and happily join in with number-recognition games. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457966
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1026993
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	29
Name of provider	My First Word Ltd
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2015
Telephone number	01273 555684

My First Word... grows up registered in 2013. It operates from a building within the grounds of St Mathias Church in Brighton, East Sussex. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. There are three staff who work at the nursery. Of these, two hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one is qualified at level 2.

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