

Whiteway Pre-School

Whiteway Centre, Whiteway Lane, Rottingdean, Brighton, BN2 7HB



Inspection date 14 April 2016
Previous inspection date 12 May 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

- The established staff team has a wealth of experience and knowledge of how children develop. The staff work well together to give children support and guidance as they learn. All children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Children are continually busy and engaged with the wide range of activities. They show great enthusiasm and an eagerness to take part in everything on offer.
- Since the last inspection, the management team has worked hard to make improvements. All legal requirements are met and practice is good.
- Children behave well. For example, they cooperate and respond well to the praise and rewards, such as gold stars for individual effort.
- Mathematics is a strong area throughout the pre-school. Many children exceed expectations in progress in this aspect of their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the best possible use of children's different backgrounds and home languages to extend all children's awareness of diversity.
- Staff do not always share the best possible information about what children do and their development needs with parents. For example, they are not able to talk to their children about what they have enjoyed, to share in their learning experiences and extend them at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's understanding and awareness of people's differences and similarities
- share more detailed information with parents about their children's development and daily activities to encourage them to be further involved with children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had discussions with staff, management and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff suitability checks and qualifications, planning, children's records and policies.
- The inspector spoke to parents for their views about the pre-school.

Inspector

Jill Steer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The pre-school has strong leadership that is committed to improving experiences and outcomes for children. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff fully understand the procedures to follow to help protect children. Management leads a culture of reflective practice as it and the staff continually evaluate what they do. They gather detailed information about the progress and learning of all children. They swiftly identify any gaps and quickly provide additional support. Staff receive regular support from the management team and training to help improve their teaching practices. Overall, partnerships with parents are strong. For example, they contribute to the running of the pre-school through their roles on the management committee.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan activities they know children enjoy and that challenge their learning well. They regularly observe children and make good use of assessments to plan for their continued progress. Children make decisions about what they do and staff are skilled at knowing when to intervene to offer support and when to observe. For example, staff use good questioning and encourage children to think of answers. For instance, where did they think the sand came from that they were scooping and with which they were building. Children had various suggestions, such as the shop, Africa and the sea. Staff encourage children's early literacy development very well. For example, they provided comics to encourage boys to read more and this successfully attracted all children to sit and look at them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy and settled in the pre-school. They develop good relationships with all staff, but in particular with their key person. Children make friends with whom they play cooperatively and older children are protective of younger children. Children confidently move around the large space freely and safely. They play outside every day and, for instance, learn about fresh air being good for their bodies. Snack times allow children to choose when they eat and make healthy food choices. Children learn to do things for themselves and become increasingly independent. There is a wide selection of resources available to children, some of which they can choose for themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make at least typical progress for their age. They display many characteristics of effective learning. Children have good concentration and attention, such as during group sessions. They listen very attentively to stories and, for example, contribute to familiar parts of the story. Children are quick to question and express their views. By the time children are ready to move to school, they have many skills to build on for their continued education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	130776
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1015206
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Whiteway Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2015
Telephone number	01273 307431 or 07740 797858

Whiteway Pre-School is a committee-run group and registered in 1992. It operates from a large hall in the Whiteway Community Centre in Rottingdean, East Sussex. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9am to 12.55pm, during school terms. There are six members of staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3 and one who holds a level 2 qualification. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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