Battle Pre-School Playgroup



Asten Fields, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0HP

Inspection date Previous inspection date		22 April 2016 29 April 2010		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:		Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:		Outstanding	1
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

- Children make exceptional progress. Staff know their skills and interests incredibly well and use this information to provide interesting, tailored learning experiences. Children develop an excellent range of skills in order to be ready for the next stage in their learning.
- Children's well-being is supported exceptionally well. Staff form extremely strong emotional bonds with children from the start. Children are very happy, settle quickly and eagerly share their experiences with staff and their friends.
- Staff are extremely knowledgeable and skilled. For example, they provide exceptional play opportunities and inspiring real life experiences, which motivate, stimulate and encourage children to explore and learn through play.
- There are excellent partnerships with parents. For example, staff involve them in their children's learning and share a wide range of information with them. This helps parents to continue to support and extend their children's learning further at home.
- The manager is highly reflective and works very closely with staff, parents and other professionals to meticulously review and consider all aspects of practice. This helps to identify areas of practice to extend further and maintain the excellent quality of teaching and outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

strengthen further the already excellent partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend to provide even greater opportunities for sharing information about their achievements and progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children playing and interacting indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector discussed with the staff how they support children's development.
- The inspector spoke to available parents to gather their views.
- The inspector viewed documentation, including children's developmental records and suitability checks.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager to observe the interactions between staff and children.

Inspector Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager has developed a highly effective culture of ongoing training for staff. For example, she recognises the importance of staff sharing training, knowledge and skills to extend their practice. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the importance of recognising any changes in children's behaviour and have an excellent understanding of the process to follow if they have concerns. The manager is extremely effective at monitoring children's progress and works with staff and other professionals to arrange extra support if required. Staff work extremely well with parents and other settings that children attend. However, they have not yet fully built on the partnerships to share their excellent assessments of children's progress that they record electronically.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff recognise children's achievements and build on these and their interests to extend their learning further. For example, staff provide resources to support children's imaginative 'pirate' play and link role-play areas to their recent experiences of new siblings. This expert use of resources that react to children's changing life experiences helps them to make sense of what is happening around them. Staff are highly effective at helping children to prepare for the move to school. For example, they independently look at photos of their new teachers and try on the relevant uniforms.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have excellent opportunities to learn how to manage their own behaviour. For example, staff ask children to think for themselves how simple conflicts can be resolved. This helps children to behave exceptionally well and learn how to cope and deal with situations in a positive way. Staff make excellent use of additional funding to meet children's individual needs. They recognise when children need extra help to catch up and arrange interesting, motivating and exciting learning experiences. For example, staff provide cooking activities for the children to do at pre-school and then send ingredients home for children to do with their parents.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are motivated and extremely enthusiastic learners who seek involvement in new and exciting activities. They have a wide range of opportunities to learn to manage risk for themselves in a safe and controlled environment. For example, children use tools and learn to keep themselves safe in woodland. They focus on activities for sustained periods and benefit from limitless opportunities to expand these activities in their own way. Children make excellent progress in relation to their starting points and are extremely ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109386	
Local authority	East Sussex	
Inspection number	824881	
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	2 - 5	
Total number of places	30	
Number of children on roll	44	
Name of provider	Battle Pre-School Playgroup Committee	
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2010	
Telephone number	01424 774057	

Battle Pre-School registered in 1967. It is located in the village of Battle, East Sussex. It is open weekdays from 8am to 6pm, 48 weeks a year and offers morning, afternoon and full day sessions. A breakfast and after school club are also offered. The pre-school employs six staff, of whom the manager and one other staff member hold early years foundation degrees and three other staff hold relevant level 3 early years qualifications. The provider receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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