The Elizabeth Foundation

Southwick Hill Road, Cosham, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO6 3LL



Inspection date	25 April 2016
Previous inspection date	1 December 2009

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff promote children's communication and language skills exceptionally well using highly effective strategies, giving children the confidence to join in. For example, they enrich their interactions, stories and activities with signs and actions. They attentively listen and watch for children's responses, giving them time to communicate.
- The leader and staff continually evaluate their practice to the highest standard. They skilfully identify ways of improving the provision and address areas for development with enthusiasm. This significantly enhances children's learning experiences.
- Children play in exceptionally well-resourced play areas where they enjoy rich and varied learning experiences. The staff provide exciting and enjoyable activities that motivate and inspire children's thinking.
- The inspirational leader has a wealth of knowledge and experience. She values her staff highly and supports them very well. Staff are highly motivated and demonstrate a strong commitment to delivering high-quality, stimulating and innovative teaching.
- The leader and staff use highly accurate observations and assessments to monitor children's learning and plan their progression. They respond to children's special educational needs highly effectively, enabling them to excel.
- The leader has very strong links with other early years settings children attend, promoting excellent sharing of information and continuity for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

consider even more ways to engage all families in their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play indoors.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures, and a range of other documentation, such as self-evaluation records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children.
- The inspector considered the views of parents, verbal and written.

Inspector

Clare Leake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent knowledge of safeguarding procedures, enabling them to keep children safe from harm. The leader provides staff with excellent support to enhance their skills. Frequent training in speech and language development means they continually update their knowledge and teaching expertise. The leader continually reflects on practice, making changes to rapidly improve outcomes for children. Overall, partnerships with parents are excellent. Daily chats, frequent messages and the regular sharing of children's assessments promote a highly collaborative approach to their individual needs. Staff implement specific programmes of support jointly with parents to help children's gaps in development close rapidly, although the leader is aware that they could do even more to further involve parents in their children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly qualified and use their expertise exceptionally well to provide children with outstanding support. Children engage in an inspirational range of activities. For example, they excitedly took part in a cooking activity and received very clear guidance to complete different tasks. Staff expertly helped children to develop their counting skills and extend their vocabulary, encouraging children to repeat words and ensuring that they pronounced them correctly. Children eagerly recalled how the toaster went 'pop', while giggling and laughing to one another as they helped to prepare beans on toast for snack time. Staff have very high expectations of what children can achieve, encouraging them to persevere and gain confidence in their own abilities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children play in exceptionally comfortable and stimulating spaces. They independently choose from a very wide range of accessible resources and share them very cooperatively. Children confidently use an extensive variety of equipment to develop their physical skills. For example, children ride on wheeled toys and negotiate their route very successfully to avoid collisions. Staff provide constant praise and encouragement, helping to promote children's self-esteem and confidence. Children form very secure, trusting relationships with staff, which helps to promote their emotional well-being and provide a strong foundation for their future learning.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children thrive in this inclusive, supportive, and welcoming environment. They are inquisitive, independent and highly motivated learners. Children progress exceptionally well from their starting points. They learn an excellent range of skills in readiness for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number 143465

Local authority Portsmouth

Inspection number 825833

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register

Age range of children 0 - 5

Total number of places 29

Number of children on roll 36

Name of provider The Elizabeth Foundation

Date of previous inspection 1 December 2009

Telephone number 02392 372735

The Elizabeth Foundation registered in 1981. The family centre is situated in Cosham, Portsmouth and is open five days a week during term time only. Sessions are from 9.30am to 2.30pm. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. All children are deaf and some have other associated special educational needs. There are 10 members of staff; of these, three hold Qualified Teacher Status and the remainder hold qualifications at level 3 or above.

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