

Play Centre Nursery

Wickbourne Centre, Clun Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7DZ



Inspection date	19 December 2016
Previous inspection date	14 March 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children develop strong bonds with all staff, which helps to support their emotional well-being. Children are happy and confidently explore the environment. They make consistently good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Managers and staff strive to improve and work in partnership with parents to gain their views. Managers constantly monitor children's progress and identify areas of the provision to improve further to have the most impact on children's learning.
- Staff actively involve parents in their children's learning and share information with them in a variety of ways; for example, online systems, social media and notice boards.
- Children enjoy playing in the stimulating environment. Staff make learning enjoyable and plan a good variety of adult-led activities that engage and motivate children.
- Older children develop good self-care skills. For example, they know to wash their hands before eating, can blow their noses and get themselves ready to go outside.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff are less confident than others at interacting with younger children and extending their learning during activities.
- Staff do not support children's independence as well as possible to help them master tasks in preparation for moving on to the next room within the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer more support for staff to recognise how to consistently engage younger children more fully in activities and help them make the most out of play opportunities
- make better use of opportunities that arise to encourage young children to try tasks for themselves to develop their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff's interactions with children in the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the day.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the manager and held a meeting to discuss aspects of the nursery's practice.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and read emails to gain parents' views on the nursery and staff.
- The inspector sampled a range of written documentation, including children's development records, self-evaluation and policies.

Inspector

Hannah Barter

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a confident knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's safety or well-being. The environment is safe. Staff risk assess all areas of the environment before children arrive and deploy themselves effectively at all times, indoors and outdoors. Recruitment procedures are thorough. Managers conduct rigorous interviews and provide targeted support and mentoring to ensure the suitability of all staff. Staff receive regular training to help develop their practice. They have good opportunities to undertake qualifications and develop their knowledge in specific areas of practice. Staff share their new knowledge during regular staff meetings so that all staff benefit. Managers work well with other relevant professionals to target support for children when necessary.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Key persons use observations and assessments effectively to identify children's next steps in learning and inform future planning. Staff skilfully extend activities. For example, a children's story led on to an activity where children felt 'snow', walked through the 'woods' and 'stomped' through water. Children confidently re-told the story and remained engaged. Staff support children's mathematical knowledge well. For example, younger children benefit from singing number songs and counting objects in books. Older children have opportunities to weigh and measure and recognise printed numbers, such as on recipe cards and in the outdoor environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff know children well. They have an excellent knowledge of their routines and accommodate them at all times. For example, staff quickly recognise when babies become tired and settle them down to sleep. Children have plenty of opportunities to develop their physical skills. Babies and young children confidently climb steps to a slide and already have a good knowledge of how to keep themselves safe. For example, they sit down at the top of the slide. Older children have continuous access to the outdoor area. In addition to messy activities, they also have opportunities to climb, run, and ride on bikes. Children behave well and have a secure understanding of what staff expect. Children are polite, kind to others and enjoy having responsibilities; for example, helping to clear away and washing up their plates.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make consistently good progress and learn many skills to help prepare them for school. From a young age, children learn to give meaning to marks they make and explore print. Overall, children are impressively confident, which enables them to challenge themselves. Children are strong communicators and have good social skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY296574
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1061841
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	123
Name of registered person	Arun Community Church Wickbourne Centre
Registered person unique reference number	RP909951
Date of previous inspection	14 March 2013
Telephone number	01903276827

Play Centre Nursery registered in 2005 and operates from within the Wickbourne Centre in Littlehampton. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks a year. It employs 16 staff, of whom 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 3 to level 5. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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