

Pebbles Day Care

Catholic Church Hall, Fort Road, Newhaven, BN9 9QQ



Inspection date	16 December 2016
Previous inspection date	18 February 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

- Staff build very strong partnerships with parents. They keep parents fully informed of their children's learning. Staff are proactive in helping parents to support their children's learning at home, providing a cohesive approach to children's development.
- The manager and staff monitor children's learning very closely and continuously assess the progress of individual and groups of children. They quickly identify any gaps in learning and offer further support. All children make at least good progress from their starting points in learning.
- Children behave very well. They are consistently kind, polite and considerate towards each other. They make friends easily. Children benefit from nurturing support, encouragement and praise from staff, who greatly value their achievements.
- The managers and staff work well to evaluate the quality of the provision and their practice effectively. They actively include parents and other professionals in the process. They make continuous improvements in the quality of children's care and learning.
- Staff support children's language development very well. For example, they engage children in interesting conversations and listen carefully to what they have to say. Staff use signing effectively with children, who confidently express their views.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff deployment in the baby area does not provide the best possible support for babies' care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve the deployment of staff working with babies to provide even more consistent support for babies' care and learning needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and held discussions in relation to children's learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The ambitious managers work well together and successfully lead the enthusiastic team. Overall, they monitor staff practice well, such as through regular observations and supervision meetings. Staff receive helpful coaching and guidance to help improve their skills. The managers use detailed improvement plans to help make further improvements to the provision. For example, staff attended training to support their understanding of how to best support two-year-olds. They now assess their communication skills more closely and include parents in the process. Safeguarding is effective. All staff are up to date with current guidelines and procedures and fully understand their responsibility to protect children. Staff attend relevant training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children very well and assess their development closely. They plan exciting activities to encourage children's next steps in learning. For example, older children thoroughly enjoyed pretending to be chefs in the mud kitchen. Staff challenged them to think of the different ingredients they needed to make 'spaghetti Bolognese' and children confidently measured and mixed their 'mud meals'. Staff use children's interests successfully to encourage their learning. For example, two-year-old children used their favourite toys to make marks in shaving foam and practise early writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a very welcoming, friendly and stimulating environment. Children form close relationships and are very confident and secure. For example, they confidently talk about what makes them happy and how they can help other children to feel happy. Children's physical well-being is very well supported and children thoroughly enjoy regular outside play and weekly dance sessions. Staff encourage children to talk about healthy foods and they share valuable guidance with parents to further support this at home. Staff support children to clean their teeth after lunch and children have a strong understanding of the importance of good hygiene and healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, babies enjoy exploring their environment and making choices in their play. They develop good early communication skills and enjoy exploring sand, carefully using spoons to fill pots. Older children have very good mathematical skills and confidently count and work out simple number problems. They are imaginative and work very well together in their role play. Children enjoy creative activities and show good control over paintbrushes, such as when painting on the garden walls. Children have very good early literacy skills and independently find their names to self-register in the morning. Children are very well prepared for their next stage in learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344875
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1062038
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	30
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Marion Maureen MacQueen
Registered person unique reference number	RP514024
Date of previous inspection	18 February 2013
Telephone number	01273 516 099

Pebbles Day Care registered in 2006. It operates in Newhaven, East Sussex. The nursery is open each weekday between 7.30am and 6pm, all year round. The setting employs 10 staff, of whom nine hold relevant childcare qualifications from level 2 to level 4. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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