

Baby Ducks

St Nicholas and St Andrew Parish Centre, South Street, Portslade, Brighton, East Sussex, BN41 2LE



Inspection date

12 January 2017

Previous inspection date

5 June 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

- There are good partnerships with parents. For example, parents appreciate the easy access to the assessment system and regularly contribute to their child's assessments.
- Staff assess children's starting points when they start at the nursery. This helps them identify children's next steps in learning and plan appropriate activities. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- There are good links between the nursery and other settings involved with individual children, including schools. Information about children's learning and development is shared well and this helps support a consistent approach to children's progress.
- Behaviour is good. Children have very positive relationships with their key worker and other staff. This helps to encourage children's confidence and sense of well-being.
- Staff are well supported. The manager holds regular one-to-one meetings to discuss their practice and how they can make improvements that extend outcomes for children. Staff are actively encouraged to attend training to improve their teaching skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of all opportunities to develop children's understanding of mathematics.
- Sometimes, staff do not question children effectively to extend their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to develop children's understanding of mathematical ideas and language
- ensure all members of staff question children effectively to help extend their learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all members of staff.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of children's activities with the manager and discussed the learning that took place.
- The inspector held discussions about safeguarding procedures with the manager and with other members of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know how to keep children safe. They know who to contact if they have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare. The premises are checked regularly and action is taken quickly to eliminate risks. For example, ride-on toys are sited in a different area outside to prevent children bumping into the metal fence. Self-evaluation by the management team is accurate, and takes the views of parents, staff and children into account, as they identify improvements. For instance, an area of fake turf has replaced an area that was frequently fouled by animals at night.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager reviews children's progress and any gaps in learning are quickly identified. Prompt actions are planned and taken, to help children catch up. There are a wide range of activities for children to choose from. Staff readily adopt the roles children want them to. For example, staff pretend to be the shopkeeper 'scanning' items of shopping. Children's physical development is effectively supported. For instance, they enjoy balancing, riding trikes, and jumping in and out of hoops in the fresh air. Children learn to appreciate the differences between themselves and others. For example, they read books about other cultures and cook food from different countries.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have an awareness of each other's needs. For example, when children trip over, their friends stop their game to say, 'Are you OK?' Staff provide a nutritious and varied snack and this helps support children's physical well-being. Adults eat lunch with the children and talk to them about healthy eating. This helps to support children's social skills and understanding of what makes a healthy diet. Children can use simple tools, such as scissors, safely and effectively. For instance, they choose thin paint brushes instead of thick ones. Children are confident and chat happily to adults. For example, they speak knowledgeably about the skills of various big cats.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for the next stage of their education, including school. Children develop good writing skills. For example, they make shopping lists and write their names on their pictures. Children have a positive interest in reading. For instance, they correctly identify letters in their names and like to borrow books to read at home. Children learn to be independent, such as recognising their names on coat hooks and water bottles. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, develop effective communication skills. For example, children learn to listen to each other during daily 'show and tell' sessions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448830
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1062696
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 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Gary Robert Cambell-Smith
Registered person unique reference number	RP514783
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2013
Telephone number	01273 911 373

Baby Ducks nursery is privately run and registered in 2012. It operates at the St Nicholas and St Andrews Parish Centre in the Portslade area of Brighton and Hove. The nursery is open during term time only. It runs Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 3.30pm, and on Friday from 8.30am until 12.30pm. There are five members of staff, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3 and the manager has early years professional status. The provider receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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