

Erskine Day Nursery

Erskine Villa, Brighton Road, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 9EF



Inspection date

10 March 2017

Previous inspection date

29 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff provide an exceptionally challenging learning environment for children with extensive opportunities and resources for play, exploration and discovery. Children are extremely confident, enthusiastic and highly motivated to learn.
- Staff provide parents with extensive support. For example, they consistently share detailed information about children's learning and value all information that is shared with them. Parents are completely involved and engaged in their children's learning.
- The manager is a truly exceptional leader. Her enthusiasm and commitment for improvement is reflected in all aspects of the setting. The manager and staff meticulously evaluate their practices and continuously improve outcomes for children.
- The quality of teaching is exemplary. Staff skilfully extend children's learning, consistently encouraging them to think for themselves and solve problems. Children delight in working things out and excitedly share their views and ideas. All children make rapid progress in their learning from their starting points.
- Children behave extremely well. They have an excellent understanding of what staff expect and treat their friends and staff with great care, consideration and respect.
- Children's learning needs are extremely closely monitored and supported. The manager and staff rigorously check the progress of individuals and groups of children to help immediately highlight and close any gaps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the already excellent learning opportunities, to support children's understanding of the importance of a healthy eating even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact this had 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 outstanding

The inspirational manager supervises the staff extremely closely and recognises their individual skills. She helps them to reflect on their own practice and coaches them to support children's learning further. They have made significant improvements to help raise their practice to an outstanding level. For example, they introduced a new online system for assessing children's development. Staff make expert use of assessments to help provide the highest levels of challenge to all children. The manager precisely identifies areas to improve, including providing further support for children to understand the importance of healthy eating. Safeguarding is effective. All staff receive high levels of training to help develop their excellent understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff enthusiastically support children's understanding of the world around them in inspiring ways. For example, children delight in exploring plants in the garden, excitedly investigating their roots. Staff extended children's learning extremely well and children learn that roots 'suck up water like straws' to feed the plants. Staff consistently challenge children to think critically and make predictions. For example, as they investigate and compare different shells, children excitedly share their ideas of what they might be called. Staff support children to research the shells using the computer and they successfully identify them as 'concho shells'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are extremely supportive and attentive to the individual needs of all children. Children are exceptionally happy, secure and independent. They thrive on responsibilities, such as peeling and preparing fruit for snack and laying the table for lunch. Children are extremely physically active and thoroughly enjoy exploring the exceptionally well-equipped outdoor area. They benefit from exciting opportunities for exercise, such as inspiring sports sessions with a qualified sports teacher. Children develop excellent social skills and friendships. They happily ask their friends if they want any more snack, and they enthusiastically pass the fruit around the table.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely willing to give things a go. They eagerly attempt new challenges, showing great pride in their achievements. Children concentrate extremely well when carefully creating a complex farmyard scene. They are excellent communicators and talk about their experiences with great confidence. Children develop exceptional early literacy skill. For example, they pay excellent attention to detail as they skilfully write their names and confidently know the different letter sounds. Children rapidly gain the skills needed for their next stages in learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277540
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1085811
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Susan Jane Adair
Registered person unique reference number	RP511365
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2015
Telephone number	01273 833248

Erskine Day Nursery registered in 2003. It operates in Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex. The nursery is open between 8am and 6pm each weekday, all year through. The setting employs four staff, of whom one holds early years professional status, one holds a relevant qualification at level 4 and two hold qualifications at level 3. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years.

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