

# Hilltop Nursery

Brighton General Hospital, Elm Grove, Brighton, BN2 3EW



## Inspection date

28 July 2017

Previous inspection date

7 November 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- Children are extremely well behaved and polite. Nurturing and close relationships develop between all children, staff and parents. Staff share high-quality information, which supports children's interests and needs. The consistency of care between home and the nursery is excellent and completely supports children to feel secure.
- Inspirational leaders use highly effective systems for monitoring and evaluating practices within the nursery. They listen and react positively to the views of staff, children and parents. Their exceptionally high standards for improvement ensure children are cared for in an extremely safe, stimulating and welcoming environment.
- The leaders' excellent supervision and appraisal ensure staff receive high-quality training and support to update their knowledge continually. Staff provide exciting and stimulating activities that enable children to be highly absorbed and engaged in play.
- Excellent teaching helps all children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, to develop skills rapidly ready for their future learning.
- Children are wonderfully motivated to learn and eager to share experiences with adults and each other. For example, a child shared their fascination with robots with a member of staff who encouraged finding out more by looking for information and pictures on the computer.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent range of information for parents to build on their child's learning at home.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed activities and resources in all rooms and the garden.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector spoke with staff, and held a meeting with the manager and nominated person.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents and carers, and sampled parents' feedback forms.

### Inspector

Alison Martin

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Children's safety and welfare are at the heart of everything. Staff's extremely thorough understanding of their responsibilities ensures they know what to do if they are concerned about a child. Leaders' meticulous monitoring of children's outcomes ensures they all make excellent progress. They quickly identify any gaps in their learning and put in excellent support to help them catch up with their peers. Leaders reflect on the extensive range of resources and information for parents to extend children's learning at home. They plan to provide more guidance for parents to help keep their children safe when using the internet.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their excellent knowledge children to provide extremely well-planned activities. They expertly extend learning opportunities. For example, they prompt children to remember the ingredients and equipment when they make playdough. Excellent use of signing supports teaching of children's communication skills. For example, staff build on children's language skills and their understanding of the world as they create a beach in the sand. Children develop their imaginations and wonder in the everyday world as they make up stories in the small-world castle. Exciting sensory experiences, such as scented pink foam, encourage younger children to explore different textures. Staff use precise assessments to help children consistently meet and usually exceed their learning targets.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff maintain exceptionally high standards of care and hygiene. They teach children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and inspire them to be physically active. For example, children love stretching and exercising to music with staff at the start of every day. They make excellent use of the well-resourced outside space to support children's physical development. Staff provide children with extremely well-balanced meals. They are encouraged to try new foods and serve themselves during very sociable mealtimes. Children confidently communicate their emotional and physical needs to staff, knowing that they will be there for them. Staff skilfully help even the youngest children express how they are feeling in different ways. For example, they put pictures of faces around mirrors to help children recognise their different emotions. Staff provide an exceptional range of resources, including home-made books that help children learn to value differences and similarities between themselves and others.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly independent learners. They are extremely curious and thoroughly enjoy exploring and developing their ideas. Staff encourage children's literacy and mathematical skills exceptionally well. For example, children add up how many spoons of flour they need to make play dough and estimate how much mud a pan can hold in the mud kitchen. They enjoy spontaneously drawing with chalk outside and practise writing inside. They flourish in this extremely calm and supportive environment.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	130691
<b>Local authority</b>	Brighton & Hove
<b>Inspection number</b>	1070231
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	22
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	35
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sussex Community NHS Trust
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP905489
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	7 November 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01273 696011 3302

Hilltop Nursery registered with Ofsted in 2001. The nursery is one of three nurseries managed by Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust. The nursery operates in the grounds of Brighton General Hospital, in Brighton, East Sussex. It is open each weekday from 7.00am to 7.00pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provision employs six members of staff. Five staff are qualified at level 3, including the manager.

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