

The Brambles Nursery School and Children's Centre



Bramble Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO4 0DT

Inspection date	31 July 2017
Previous inspection date	17 July 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

- The manager is a strong leader and she offers clear guidance to staff. She collates staff's ideas, gathers views and opinions from parents to identify priorities for development and makes changes that benefit children.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents and other professionals, such as teachers and speech therapists. This helps to promote a consistent approach to supporting children and meeting their needs.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development. Staff effectively assess children's starting points and monitor their development effectively.
- Children are happy and confident, and display good relationships with each other. Staff are good role models and ensure that children are aware of the clear and consistent boundaries for their behaviour.
- Staff have a calm, respectful and nurturing approach and recognise the uniqueness of all the children in their care. Children are happy as they develop warm and trusting relationships with staff who support their emotional well-being effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to fully maximise children's learning, such as asking questions that help children to think.
- The manager does not fully monitor staff's practice to enhance the quality of teaching to the highest possible level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children time to think and consider their thoughts while engaging in play to extend their learning
- develop the monitoring of staff's practice to identify areas to enhance the quality of teaching to outstanding levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at documentation, including policies, procedures and staff's suitability.
- The inspector reviewed the self-evaluation documents and action plans for the setting.

Inspector

Clare Leake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers ensure staff are fully aware of their role and responsibility in keeping children safe. They know what actions to take if they have concerns about a child. Managers use robust recruitment and induction procedures to help to ensure that children are well cared for by suitable adults. Managers identify training needs, for example, through observations of the staff. Monitoring teaching, however, is still in its infancy stage. The manager understands the importance of staff updating their knowledge and attending training. Managers uses additional funding well, such as to purchase specific resources to suit children's interests and learning needs and to employ extra staff to further support children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Generally, staff teach children well and they benefit from their enthusiastic and supportive interactions. Staff observe and assess children's development and use this information to plan activities to support their individual needs. They work closely with parents to share information about children's learning. Parents are encouraged to contribute information about their children's development and interests at home. Staff provide a wide range of good-quality resources which children use to explore ideas and learn new skills. Babies enjoy a range of role-play resources, such as real vegetables and cutlery that recreate real-life experiences that motivate them to explore and learn. Older children develop good social skills during group activities, such as a puppet show. For example, they take turns and support one another to invent and carry out amusing stories to a supportive audience of peers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy their time at the nursery where they learn, explore and develop safely. The caring and attentive staff support them well. Children thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to play outside and are very active. They are keen to explore. Staff support children's growing knowledge of the wider world. For example, staff encourage children to listen to an aeroplane flying by, and ask children questions about where the aeroplane may be travelling.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development from their starting points and are settled and happy. Children are inquisitive and adventurous. They persist with activities and become absorbed in what they are doing. They learn to take responsibility for their surroundings. For example, they tidy up toys when they are finished with them. Children are confident, independent learners and develop good social skills as they play cooperatively with other children. They are well prepared for their next stages in learning, including the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY307547
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	1061915
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	140
Number of children on roll	180
Name of registered person	The Governing Body of Brambles Nursery School and Goldsmith Infant School
Registered person unique reference number	RP525563
Date of previous inspection	17 July 2013
Telephone number	02392 815460

The Brambles Nursery School registered in 2005. The nursery employs 35 members of staff. Of these, one holds early years teacher status, two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, one has a qualification at level 4, 19 have a qualification at level 3 and three at level 2. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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