

Elan Nursery

59 Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3DR



Inspection date

7 November 2017

Previous inspection date

17 June 2015

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 fully understand the care needs of all children. They are very calm and create a warm and nurturing environment for young children. Children and babies are happy, secure and confidently explore the stimulating nursery environment. They form strong, trusting bonds with staff and go to them for comfort, reassurance and encouragement.
- Staff assess children's development closely and plan effectively for their next steps in learning. Managers monitor the progress that all children make, including funded children, and address any gaps in learning quickly. Staff successfully share expertise with other professionals working with children. All children make good progress from their starting points, regardless of their situation.
- The enthusiastic managers reflect carefully on the effectiveness of the nursery. They work well with staff, parents and children to help identify strengths and areas for further improvement. They make positive changes to help meet the needs of all children and maintain their good learning and development outcomes.
- Parent partnerships are strong. The managers and staff keep parents fully up to date with their children's development. They regularly share records of what children are learning and ideas for how parents can further support this at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently have the highest expectations for what children can achieve during activities and their play, to fully extend their learning.
- At times, staff do not fully support children's understanding of how their behaviour can have an impact on others.

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 staff interactions with children to offer even higher levels of challenge to their learning more consistently
- provide children with more consistent support to develop their understanding of how their actions can affect others.

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 nursery'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 lead the well-qualified staff team well and offer effective support for its continued professional development. They monitor staff practice closely and identify further training and guidance to help introduce new ideas. For example, after recent training, staff now focus on five stories and songs with children each week. They repeat them to help build children's understanding and share them with parents to support consistent learning. The managers reflect closely on children's learning and identify areas for further support, such as their understanding of diversity. For example, they have introduced visits where children can meet and take part in activities with the elderly in a local nursing home. Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff have up-to-date knowledge of how to deal with any child protection concerns and follow thorough procedures. They vigilantly assess risks and maintain children's safety at all times.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They use children's interests and next steps successfully and plan an engaging environment. For example, babies very much enjoy exploring ice cubes, picking them up with their hands and reacting excitedly to the cold. Staff skilfully model new language, such as 'ice', and describe children's actions to support their early language development. Staff give two-year-old children plenty of opportunities to explore creative activities. For example, children happily create Bonfire Night pictures. They enthusiastically discuss the fireworks they saw, saying they 'went bang'. Staff follow children's ideas successfully. For instance, as young children enjoy playing with a train set, staff take them outside to watch real trains in the nearby train station.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy plenty of exercise in the well-resourced 'physical studio', as well as during regular trips to explore local parks and woodlands. They show good balance and coordination, confidently riding wheeled toys and climbing on challenging equipment. Children enthusiastically eat the nutritious home-cooked nursery meals. They confidently serve themselves and enjoy a sociable mealtime, happily talking with staff and friends. Staff encourage children to try new foods and they discuss the many benefits of healthy eating. Staff support children's good behaviour well overall and children develop positive social skills. Children happily include others in their play, such as when working together to make pretend meals in the role-play kitchen.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are eager and motivated learners who are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. They are independent and make easy choices from the wide range of activities. Children concentrate well and pay good attention to detail. For example, they use acorns to make different prints and marks with paint. Babies communicate confidently and use gestures and facial expressions to share their wants and feelings. They develop strong physical skills and learn to walk from an early age. Children enjoy imaginary play and happily pretend to iron the dressing-up clothes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY305006
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1092292
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	101
Name of registered person	Elan Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905577
Date of previous inspection	17 June 2015
Telephone number	01444 474647

Elan Nursery registered in 2005 and is situated in Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The provider receives funding for free early education for children aged two years. There are 26 members of staff; of these, two have early years teacher status and 20 staff hold early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 5.

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