Summerfields Nursery

Summerheath Hall, Summerheath Road, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 3DR

Inspection date	8 November 2017
Previous inspection date	13 November 2014

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 provider and her team provide a nursery experience that fully benefits the children and their families. She welcomes the advice and feedback from the local authority, which helps to support good leadership.
- Staff plan a varied range of interesting activities that motivates children to explore, investigate and learn well through their play.
- Staff work hard to get to know the children and their families well. They form positive relationships with parents that provide an effective shared approach to children's well-being and learning. Children are generally confident, settled and happy.
- The management team regularly reviews staff practice and all aspects of the nursery. It uses the views of parents, staff and other professionals to help identify areas for further improvement. It makes changes, such as adding new areas to the garden, to help raise the quality of the provision.
- All children make good progress in their learning and development, in particular the younger funded children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, some staff do not always make full use of all opportunities to extend children's learning.
- Staff do not always support children to express their own ideas creatively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve all aspects of teaching to make sure every opportunity to extend children's learning is used
- increase the opportunities for children to express their own ideas creatively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and considered the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager to assess how well managers monitor the quality of practice.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff.
- The inspector met with the nursery provider, who is also the manager, and her deputy. She sampled some nursery documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.

Inspector
Sue Suleyman

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager develops the skills and knowledge of all staff. She targets training to assist in meeting their professional development needs and to ensure good outcomes for the children. For example, staff completed a course on healthy eating and now work actively with parents and children to help them develop an awareness of suitable foods. Managers monitor the development of groups of children carefully to identify any gaps in learning. They use funding well, such as to provide additional teaching, to effectively close these gaps. Safeguarding is effective. Managers check the suitability of staff carefully. They ensure staff know what to look for and what to do if they have concerns about the welfare of a child. Staff supervise children well to help keep them safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe and accurately assess children's development, and use this to plan what they need to learn next. Staff focus on increasing children's speaking and listening skills and recognise the unique needs of two-year-olds. For example, younger children enjoy a quieter time in their age groups that gives them a chance to develop their own interests. They have fun as they join in the sounds in simple stories and learn new vocabulary. Older children gain good literacy skills as they listen carefully and make predictions about the story chosen for their age group. Staff encourage the children to talk about what they are doing as they play together. They describe children's play, ask questions and follow the children's interests. Staff pay good attention to promoting children's mathematical skills during play and everyday routines. For example, staff model counting at group and snack times. Children know the shapes and sizes as they match puzzle pieces.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The children generally behave well. Staff deal calmly and effectively with any incidents. They have a variety of positive strategies to help children learn to behave appropriately. For example, they use timers to help children understand waiting for a turn and praise children who share toys. Children have good self-esteem because the nurturing staff consistently praise their efforts and achievements. Younger children persevere and show delight when they complete a challenging task. Children have ample opportunity to learn about the benefits of exercise and develop their physical skills both indoors and outdoors. For example, they ride bicycles to the 'car wash' indoors and learn to balance on challenging stepping stones in the garden. They learn about healthy eating as they enjoy a variety of fruit and nutritious food for snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are inquisitive and eager to learn. They demonstrate growing independence as they confidently choose their own play. Older children are competent communicators and ask questions to find out how things work. For example, as they make models from construction toys. Children gain the skills and attitudes they need for success at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293942
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1070619
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	35
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Valerie Joy Elsbury
Registered person unique reference number	RP514538
Date of previous inspection	13 November 2014
Telephone number	01323 449057

Summerfields Nursery registered in 2004. It operates from a community hall in Hailsham, East Sussex. The nursery opens each weekday during school term times. It opens on Monday from 9am to 1pm and on Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 3.30pm. The nursery receives funded early education for children aged two, three and four years and additional early years pupil premium funding for some children. The nursery employs eight members of staff. Of these, five staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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