

# The Co-operative Childcare Sussex



Childcare Centre, University of Sussex, Southern Ring Road, Falmer, East Sussex,  
BN1 9BT

<b>Inspection date</b>	29 November 2017
Previous inspection date	23 April 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

- Staff provide an exceptionally challenging learning environment for all children, with extensive opportunities and resources for play, exploration and discovery.
- The manager and staff recognise and support the individual developmental needs of children extremely well. They provide an exceptionally inclusive environment and work tirelessly to ensure children receive the individually tailored care and learning they need. All children, including those who have special educational needs (SEN), receive every opportunity to progress to their full potential.
- The extraordinary manager leads her extremely hard-working and highly qualified team supremely well. She provides staff with inspiring personalised coaching and training to support the continued development of their exceptional skills. The manager continuously observes staff practice, giving extensive feedback to help raise their skills and children's outcomes to an outstanding level.
- Staff provide parents with excellent support. For example, parents receive thorough monthly feedback, detailing children's precise next steps in learning. Staff also provide inspiring 'home-learning' activity packs designed to specifically meet the interests and needs of each child. Parents are completely engaged in their children's learning.
- Staff build superb relationships with all children. Their wonderfully nurturing approach helps children to feel exceedingly happy, secure and settled. Staff value children's individuality extremely highly and are completely attentive to their every need.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to support staff who are new to the nursery to develop their excellent practice even further.

### 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 outstanding

The inspirational manager has immense enthusiasm and commitment to evaluation and improvement. For example, she knows there is room to continue to develop the support for staff who are new to the nursery to extend their excellent practice. The manager and staff rigorously monitor the development of groups of children to help rapidly highlight and close any gaps in learning. The manager recently worked extremely closely with staff and parents to improve children's physical experiences. For example, she introduced inspiring sessions, teaching children how to ride balance bicycles before moving on to ride pedal bicycles. Parents were also invited into the nursery for an open day and given thorough support to build on children's physical development at home. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff receive high levels of training and have an excellent, up-to-date understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns.

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

Staff maintain extensive records of children's development and know each child's abilities in exceptional detail. They plan extremely well to support children's current interests and extend their learning. For example, very young children delight in exploring vegetables and using them to make colourful paint prints. Children rapidly learn the names, such as 'parsnip', and then excitedly use them independently in their own play. Staff run inspiring daily activities to support children's exceptional early literacy skills. Children delight in recognising and practising letter sounds and staff extend their understanding even further. For example, children talk about some letters having 'bouncy or stretchy sounds' and excitedly make hand actions to accompany the different sounds. After recent training, staff now focus heavily on supporting and developing children's own ideas and imaginations. For example, young children excitedly explore ingredients and delight in creating their own 'cooking artwork', mixing oats, flour and sugar with paint and glue.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children delight in exploring the wonderfully stimulating, challenging and adventurous outdoor areas. They independently manage their own risks and develop exceptionally high self-esteem. For example, children take extreme care as they tackle difficult climbing walls. Other children watch on with fascination and cheer on their friends, showing excellent social skills and respect for others. Staff are superb role models and children behave wonderfully. They are extremely kind, helpful and mindful of the rules.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children develop an extensive range of skills that prepares them superbly well for the next stage in their learning. They have highly impressive mathematical, communication and physical skills. Children have an excellent awareness of safety and excitedly help to assess the risks in the nursery each morning to make sure it is safe for their friends. Babies are highly curious about the world around them and show fascination as they explore. Older children begin to sound out simple words and confidently write their names. Children who need additional support are catching up rapidly in their learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY473592
<b>Local authority</b>	East Sussex
<b>Inspection number</b>	1069985
<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>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	101
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	153
<b>Name of registered person</b>	The Midcounties Co-Operative Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP900862
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	23 April 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01273 678356

The Co-operative Childcare Sussex registered in 2014. It is one of a large number of private nurseries run by The Midcounties Co-Operative Limited. The nursery operates within the Childcare Centre in the University of Sussex, in East Sussex. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year through. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It employs 38 members of staff, 37 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including one member of staff with a relevant degree and another who holds early years teacher status.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2017

