

The Village Station Preschool

Pagham Village Hall, Pagham Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 4NJ



Inspection date

10 January 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The highly qualified owners and their enthusiastic manager passionately share their vast experience with the staff. Strong leadership, combined with committed staff, mean there is a shared vision to provide the highest quality standards.
- The well-qualified staff team provides children with an excellent range of interesting and stimulating activities. These are meticulously planned to link with children's interests and to extend their learning.
- Staff place a high priority on supporting children's emotional well-being. The key-person system is well established and highly effective. Staff work extremely closely with parents to ensure that children continue to feel nurtured and secure in the pre-school.
- Children's behaviour is extremely good. Staff are excellent role models. They provide children with positive ways to express their feelings. Children know to use their 'kind voices' when speaking to their friends.
- The management team ensures that new ideas, such as from training, are implemented with positive impact. For example, after a review of their planning, staff made changes that significantly improved children's communication skills.
- Partnership with other professionals is extremely strong. Staff share information quickly and effectively to help ensure children's care and learning needs are consistently met.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure the practice of all staff continues to be outstanding, especially in supporting children's mathematical development during all activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with one of the owners.
- The inspector spoke with one of the owners, the staff team, children and parents at appropriate times.
- The inspector held meetings with one of the owners and the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector had discussions with several parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Maura Pigram

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The owners and the manager lead their well-qualified team with great efficiency and they are inspiring role models. They work extremely closely with external agencies and other professionals to help close gaps in children's learning and development. Additional funding is used exceptionally well to purchase purposeful items. These have significantly improved children's communication skills. There are highly effective systems used for recruitment and to monitor staff performance. These include: daily discussions, comprehensive inductions and supervision meetings. The management team recognises the importance of continuing to enhance staff knowledge, skills and expertise even further. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding about the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are highly interested in the experiences provided and become totally engrossed in their play. For example, they discover how to make 'snow' and learn about animals who live in the North Pole. Staff extend children's vocabulary and introduce new words, such as 'igloo'. Staff skilfully engage children in purposeful discussions and introduce early mathematical language. Excellent interactions from staff help children to extend their thoughts and ideas. For example, reference books relating to pictures children paint are shared and discussed in detail. This enables children to add extra details to their pictures. Staff complete detailed assessments of children's progress and they work hard to encourage parents to share learning from home and 'proud cloud' moments.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff build extremely positive relationships with parents and their children. They know the children exceptionally well. The home visits and regular discussions with parents about children's changing needs contribute to this. Children develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, older children remind their younger friends to hold onto the rail when walking downstairs to the outdoor area. Staff effectively promote children's good health and hygiene practices. Children have a wealth of opportunities to practise their physical skills and enjoy fresh air. For instance, they eagerly dance to favourite songs during purposeful teaching sessions. Children very confidently select resources to play with in the extremely well-resourced outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children, including those who receive funded education, make excellent progress from their starting points. They are well prepared for the move to school. Children are independent, highly motivated and are eager to learn more. They confidently show visitors how they can write letters of their name. Younger children become increasingly independent. They know how to put on their own coats and develop extremely good social skills during games and routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489498
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1022515
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	The Village Station Pre-School Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP908138
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07772278235

The Village Station Pre-school registered in 2015. The provision operates from a village hall in Pagham, West Sussex. The pre-school employs six members of staff. One of the owners holds early years professional status and four staff members hold qualifications at level 3. The pre-school is open from 9am until 4pm on Monday and Thursday. It is open from 9am until 1pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, term time only. The pre-school provides additional funding for early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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