

The Early Bird Nursery School



Heritage House, 80 Woodlands Avenue, Rustington, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 3EY

Inspection date	6 April 2018
Previous inspection date	30 July 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

- Staff are well qualified and experienced. Their calm and positive approach helps to create a nurturing environment where children feel happy, safe and settled. Children form strong bonds with staff and each other, and develop good social skills.
- Staff support children's early literacy skills successfully. For example, they act on opportunities during children's play to identify letters and practise their sounds. Children enjoy daily singing sessions, linked to letters, and show a strong understanding.
- The manager monitors children's progress effectively and quickly spots any gaps in the learning of different groups of children. She makes effective changes to help all children progress well and achieve good outcomes.
- Staff observe children's play regularly and assess their development effectively. They plan precise next steps in learning for children and plan a stimulating environment.
- The manager works well with her staff to evaluate the effectiveness of the nursery and identify areas for further improvement. Together, they make positive changes to help meet the children's needs and support their good outcomes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not monitor staff performance closely enough to help focus precisely on how they can raise practice to the highest level.
- Staff miss opportunities to share children's development records and next steps with parents to help fully engage them in their children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the systems currently in place for monitoring staff and focus more precisely on how to raise the good quality of practice further
- provide parents with more consistent information about children's development and next steps in learning to help them engage fully in their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practice and its 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 manager leads her staff confidently and makes regular improvements to the nursery. For example, they are currently developing the outdoor area and including parents' suggestions in the process. Overall, the manager provides effective support and guidance to help staff maintain their good skills and develop their practice. Staff have support meetings and are encouraged to further their childcare qualifications. They have recently developed their support for children's behaviour, including introducing sensory resources to help children manage their feelings. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have an up-to-date understanding of how to deal with and report any child protection concerns. The manager vigilantly checks the safety and suitability of the premises at all times and maintains a secure environment for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and make good use of their interactions with them to support their learning. They promote children's thinking skills particularly well and ask children plenty of thought-provoking questions. For example, as pre-school children explore role-play food, they excitedly work out what ingredients they would need to make a cake and how they would bake it. Staff support babies' early physical development successfully and give them consistent opportunities to practise and develop their strength for early walking. Babies enjoy pulling themselves up onto low furniture and walking along the room as staff hold their hands. Two-year-old children enjoy creative activities linked to their recent experiences. For example, they excitedly make sheep collages after recent trips to local farms to see the animals.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are strong role models and create a positive and welcoming environment for children. They support children's good behaviour well and children learn to be kind, considerate and respectful of others. They listen to each other's views and gain good social skills, making friends easily. For example, children ask others to join in with their role play and decide together what meals they want to cook. Staff support children's healthy lifestyles successfully and regularly talk to children about the importance of healthy eating. Children benefit from enjoyable physical activities, such as dancing sessions, and show good control over their bodily movements.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Babies are curious about their surroundings and enjoy exploring sensory toys and books. Older children develop good mathematical skills and enjoy counting and identifying shapes as they play. They are very imaginative and enthusiastically act out storylines in their play, such as driving to the shops to buy ingredients for dinner. Children are confident, motivated and keen to learn. They communicate well and express their thoughts and feelings confidently. Children are willing to give things a go and eagerly solve problems in play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY263172
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1070528
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Early Bird Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP527546
Date of previous inspection	30 July 2014
Telephone number	01903774464

The Early Bird Nursery School registered in 2001. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, all year round. There are nine members of staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or level 3. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email 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.

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/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at 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.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2018

