Northiam Nursery





Inspection date	25 June 2018
Previous inspection date	23 June 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

- There is a very relaxed, homely and welcoming environment within the nursery. Children are provided with a broad and interesting range of activities indoors and outdoors that offers opportunities to explore all areas of learning, overall.
- Staff take the time to get to know the children in their care very well. They have developed a supportive system to settle children into the nursery. Children are excited to arrive and greet their key person. They have close relationships with staff, which contributes towards children feeling safe and emotionally secure.
- The manager has developed effective systems to evaluate practice. She is committed to taking account of the views of staff, parents and children to identify the strengths and areas of development to improve outcomes for children.
- The nursery has developed strong partnerships with the local community. For instance, children are excited to regularly visit the local residential home where they share stories, songs and arts and crafts with the residents.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff miss opportunities to build on children's learning. They do not consistently use their knowledge of children's next steps to challenge their development further.
- Occasionally, some staff overlook opportunities to further develop children's concentration when they take part in activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use staff's knowledge of children's next steps in their learning to challenge them at all opportunities, to raise their development to an even higher level
- explore a wider range of opportunities for older children to develop concentration when participating in tasks.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact that this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector met with the manager and leadership team to look at a range of documentation, including policies, staff records, self-evaluation, recruitment and training and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Nicola Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is passionate about the continuing development of the nursery. The management team has developed robust procedures for recruitment, induction and ongoing training. The manager has developed an effective supervision system which offers all staff the opportunity to reflect on their practice and identify opportunities to extend their knowledge and understanding of how to care for children. Safeguarding is effective. All staff know their roles and responsibilities and know how to report concerns that a child may be at risk of abuse. The management team has a good knowledge of the statutory requirements, and has effective systems to consistently monitor the safety of the children. For example, the staff complete regular risk assessments, practise fire drills and have effective systems to monitor children's attendance.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have high expectations of all children. They keep detailed records of children's learning and development, to which parents are encouraged to contribute. They use their observations and assessments to plan appropriate next steps for each child's individual needs. Staff offer a wide range of opportunities for children to develop early writing skills. For instance, children are excited to practise writing their names on paper before posting them to their friends through the nursery post box. Children develop excellent large motor skills and control of their bodies. For example, they take part in exercise sessions where they expertly climb over apparatus, jump safely and balance and control their movements. Children are excited to share their knowledge of nature with the staff and visitors. For example, children talk about their caterpillars which have turned into chrysalises, and they confidently explain that they will soon turn into butterflies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff skilfully support children to develop their problem-solving and perseverance skills. For instance, children use large pincers to pick up and move small bottle tops from one area to another. Staff regularly praise children and encourage their participation. Children's behaviour is very good. They listen well and communicate kindly with one another. Staff encourage children to learn about being healthy. For example, they grow their own vegetables in their garden area, learn the names of the different vegetables they have grown and enjoy using them for vegetable printing. Staff understand the importance of preparing children for school and have developed effective relationships with the local schools to support children with their next steps.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Older children learn to recognise their names, for instance, when they self-register when they arrive at nursery. They are offered regular opportunities to become more confident and independent. For example, children learn to clap the syllables in their names and independently eat their lunches when they join the school children at mealtimes.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY375090

Local authority East Sussex

Inspection number 1068884

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 30

Number of children on roll 28

Name of registered person

Beckley Pre-School and Northiam Nursery

Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP906654

Date of previous inspection 23 June 2014

Telephone number 01797 252799

Northiam Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm, during term times. There are six members of staff, five of whom hold a relevant childcare qualification to level 3. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

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