

My First Friends Nursery

The Pavillion, Barn Rise, Westdene, Brighton BN1 5EE



Inspection date	4 September 2018
Previous inspection date	11 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children are settled and feel secure at this friendly, welcoming nursery. Staff work hard to create an interesting learning environment where children easily help themselves to a good mixture of resources and equipment.
- Staff meet the individual needs of all children well. They work closely with other professionals and agencies to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and ensure effective support plans are in place.
- Children take part in a varied range of interesting activities and local outings that they enjoy. For instance, staff are active in building strong links with the local community to help broaden children's experiences. Children make good progress in their development.
- There are positive relationships with parents. Staff keep them well informed and successfully involve them in their child's learning. For instance, they share regular progress reports and offer suggestions for activities to continue at home.
- Staff reflect on their practice and make changes that have a positive impact on children. For instance, they have reviewed and reorganised resources in the nursery to further encourage children's choice and independence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not precisely assess children's starting points on entry to help plan for their learning, closely monitor their progress from the very beginning and identify any gaps in learning immediately.
- At times, staff do not give children enough opportunity to think through and test out their own ideas and follow their own interests.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the arrangements for assessing children's starting points, to help monitor their progress closely from the beginning and quickly identify any gaps in learning
- develop staff skills in supporting children to think through their own ideas and lead their own play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, deputy manager and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, such as evidence of staff suitability and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and carers to take account of their views.

Inspector

Rebecca Khabbazi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of their responsibility towards the children in their care. They are conscientious in identifying and minimising any potential risks and hazards. They know how to recognise and report any child protection concerns. The manager conducts thorough checks on staff to ensure they are suitable for their role. She monitors staff performance effectively, for instance she meets with them regularly and they observe each other's practice. Staff are committed to developing their professional skills. For instance, the manager found a leadership course helpful in building her confidence and knowledge in this role.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children closely and get to know them well. Overall, the manager and staff monitor children's ongoing development effectively. They accurately identify areas where they are doing well and where they may need more support. They include all children in activities well and effectively support their communication and language skills. For instance, children all have a chance to speak in group activities and are encouraged to join in. Staff guide children well and help them gain new skills, such as a different way of making patterns with paint. Children concentrate well as they experiment and make pictures using rolling pins and string. Staff join in with children's play and make activities fun.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are warm and kind in their approach. They are good role models and offer children calm and patient guidance and praise. They use effective strategies to help children behave well, such as reinforcing the rules during group times and using sand timers to take turns with resources. Children learn to value one another and develop an understanding of different people and communities, such as through creative activities for special events. They gain useful skills and knowledge to help them keep themselves safe. For instance, they took part in a local travel safety project and remember how to behave safely when they go on outings. Staff support children's good health effectively. Children enjoy being active and are eager to play outside.

Outcomes for children are good

Children quickly grow in confidence and independence. They make choices about their day, such as whether to play indoors or out. They enjoy taking responsibility for simple tasks, such as peeling their fruit at snack time and clearing away their plate. Children become good communicators and develop strong social skills. They play well together and learn to wait patiently for their turn. They remember the words and actions to songs and are interested in stories. Older children count as they play and begin to link letters to sounds. Children develop good physical skills. They enjoy balancing along a narrow beam outside and manage to put on their own shoes. They join in activities enthusiastically and are eager to learn. Children quickly gain the skills they need for their future learning and for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	130731
Local authority	Brighton and Hove
Inspection number	10061750
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	My First Friends Nursery Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP906809
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2016
Telephone number	01273 541026

My First Friends Nursery registered in 1993. It is located in Brighton, East Sussex. The nursery is open each weekday for 50 weeks a year. It currently opens from 8am to 1pm on Monday, 8.30am to 4pm on Tuesday, 8.30am to midday on Wednesday and 8am to 1pm on Thursday and Friday, with extended hours available according to demand. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are two members of staff, who both hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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