

Cranbrook Independent Nursery and Preschool

Buttercup Barn, Haywards Heath Road, BALCOMBE, West Sussex RH17
6NL



Inspection date	4 September 2018
Previous inspection date	25 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

- The manager supports her staff well. For example, she holds meetings with them to discuss their professional development.
- Staff attend training which, for example, helps to provide opportunities for children to develop their speaking and listening skills through everyday play experiences.
- The extremely strong skills of the key persons ensure that all children are emotionally secure and confident.
- Children are independent learners. The well-resourced environment indoors and outdoors is very attractive and inviting to children. This enables children to make decisions about how and where to play.
- Staff skilfully plan for children's individual development, interests and learning needs. They ensure every child makes good progress, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of opportunities to explain to children why healthy food is important as part of their healthy lifestyles.
- Some group activities and daily routines are not organised effectively to enable all children's needs to be met.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to reinforce children's understanding of how healthy eating and lifestyles contribute to their ongoing good health
- review the organisation of some group times and daily routines so that learning opportunities are maximised, and all children's needs are fully met.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the effect this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the day of the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Shan Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager is conscientious and enthusiastic. She shows a commitment to supporting the staff in their roles and reviews their practice regularly to help improve outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what action to take should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Management checks all staff to ensure they are and remain suitable for their roles. The management team gathers the views of staff, parents and children to evaluate the quality of provision and plan future developments. Staff establish good partnerships with parents and other professionals involved in children's lives, to support consistency in children's care and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff identify children's starting points, observe their progress and plan activities to support their next steps. They provide a welcoming environment and an exciting range of activities and good-quality resources that captures children's interests. For example, children explore and experiment with an array of ingredients, such as fresh herbs and flowers, to create 'potions'. Staff help children to consolidate and deepen their learning. For example, staff help children develop their creative and physical skills through activities linked to well-known children's stories or songs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Settling-in procedures are tailored to the individual needs of each child and their family. Staff find out about children's established routines and follow these, promoting continuity of care. Staff use simple strategies to help to include quiet or less confident children to join in small-group activities, which fully promotes inclusion. Babies and young children show genuine affection for staff. They give them good eye contact and go to them for cuddles and reassurance, demonstrating that they are emotionally secure. The cook provides healthy meals and snacks for children. Children relish outdoor play, which offers challenge and interest. For example, children of all ages become absorbed in their play, explore and use their senses as they dig in the soil.

Outcomes for children are good

All groups of children achieve well from their individual starting points. Babies and younger children make good progress in developing a curiosity about the world and a willingness to learn. Children acquire skills to help them to be prepared for when they start school. Children build their early reading and writing skills well, learning to recognise letters and the sounds they represent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY330756
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10066718
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	0 - 5
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	126
Name of registered person	Childcare and Learning (Cranbrook) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906909
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2016
Telephone number	01444 811 202

Cranbrook Independent Nursery and Preschool at Buttercup Barn registered in 2006. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 10 staff, six of whom have appropriate qualifications at level 3, level 5 and level 6.

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