

Micklefield Nursery School

Sutton Avenue, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 4LP



Inspection date	9 May 2019
Previous inspection date	24 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of 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

- Leaders have a passion and vision for continually improving practice. They demonstrate a relentless determination to deliver the best for children.
- Managers are strong role models. They lead by example, are forward thinking and are exceptionally responsive to children's needs.
- The outstanding partnership working with parents and outside agencies significantly enhances children's learning.
- Teaching is exemplary and targeted where it is most needed. For instance, staff noted that boys needed extra support in developing their early writing skills.
- Robust systems are in place to monitor staff practice. This provides highly effective support for staff's professional development.
- Staff have high expectations of all children. They utilise every opportunity to maximise children's learning. As a result, any gaps in children's development close rapidly.
- The nursery offers inspirational programmes to support children who speak English as an additional language, and children with special educational needs. For instance, a 'nurture group' offers focused support to maximise children's learning.
- Behaviour is exemplary. Staff have highly effective methods to support children to feel safe and valued.
- Children are highly motivated to learn. They make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Parents are complimentary of the support that staff and managers give. One parent stated that staff 'set the bar high'.
- Staff use exceptional methods to extend children's excellent language skills. However, staff and leaders share a determination to target teaching to enable children to think in greater depth.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement opportunities for children to think in greater detail.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers and staff.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including staff qualifications, and policies used by the nursery, including children's learning journeys.
- The inspector observed a range of activities and completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.

Inspector

Adam Hawes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Senior leaders have a passion for improvement, driving practice and the nursery forwards. For instance, the manager talks of her future plans and how these will impact on providing exciting opportunities for children. The manager's exceptional vision for the nursery allows children to have outstanding experiences. Rigorous supervisions support staff to reflect on their practice, allowing highly effective teaching. Safeguarding is effective. Robust safeguarding knowledge and systematic processes allow staff to fully understand how to identify when a child may be at risk, and the procedures they must follow. Rigorous systems are in place to ensure that staff are deployed effectively to promote children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have a deep knowledge of the needs of all children in their care, enabling them to provide activities that reflect their interests. For instance, children took part in a space splatter paint activity that developed from a child who was interested in a book about space. Meticulous planning enables staff to devise activities that set an exceptional level of challenge. This enables children to make rapid progress from their starting points. Staff have a kind, caring and enthusiastic manner which motivates children to learn. Children learn through exploration and investigation, showing high levels of curiosity as they take part in creative activities. Outstanding assessment enables parents to clearly understand the progress their child is making and allows staff to support children who require additional support. For example, leaders quickly identify that boys need extra support in developing writing skills. As a result of targeted teaching, the gaps in boys' achievements closed quickly. Children listen intently to action songs, focus well to thread items and use excellent listening skills to learn new knowledge about the world. This supports outstanding outcomes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff create an exceptionally positive, warm and caring environment where children are supported extremely well. Children form strong bonds with their key person, allowing them to settle quickly into the nursery. Children have wonderful manners. They share and cooperate in their play, allowing them to gain the social skills needed for future learning. Behaviour is outstanding. Children listen intently to staff reading stories and play happily alongside one another. Staff are superb role models as they support children to be physically active, promoting a healthy lifestyle. Children and parents are supported to make healthy food choices. Children are extremely independent, washing their hands, tidying away resources and serving themselves at meal and snack times.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are curious and inquisitive and demonstrate a real desire for learning. They concentrate for extended periods of time, enabling them to maximise their learning. Children make huge strides in their progress, including those who are not yet working at typical levels for their age. Parents praise the way children are thoroughly prepared for the move on to school, confirming that children are extremely confident and ready to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109300
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10105031
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	24 - 48
Total number of places	113
Number of children on roll	160
Name of registered person	Micklefield Nursery School (Seaford)
Registered person unique reference number	RP522620
Date of previous inspection	24 November 2015
Telephone number	01323 892457

Micklefield Nursery School registered in 1994 and is located in Seaford, East Sussex. The nursery opens five days a week for 38 weeks of the year, during school term times. Opening times are from 8.30am to 3.30pm. The provision receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 35 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, three hold early years professional status and 22 hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery uses early years pupil premium where relevant.

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