

Inspection of The Nest At Laughton, Part Of Ripe Nursery School

Laughton Village Hall, Church Lane, Laughton, Lewes, Sussex BN8 6AH

Inspection date: 30 November 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Young children settle very quickly into nursery life and benefit from the nurturing and loving atmosphere. They develop very strong relationships with the highly attentive and caring staff. This helps them to feel completely happy, safe, and secure. Children's uniqueness and individual differences are celebrated and children are willing to try new things.

Young children enjoy a wide range of exciting trips into the local countryside and spend a lot of time learning outdoors. Their curiosity is encouraged well. For example, they jump in puddles, crunch fallen leaves, and see sheep and cows in the nearby field. Children are encouraged to listen to the sounds they hear, such as aeroplanes and birds, and to pick up and explore the natural objects they find.

Babies and toddlers are very active and develop strong physical skills. They carefully fill and empty containers with water, use ride-on toys and push buggies around the garden. Young children behave well and listen to staff's gentle reminders and instructions. They learn to play with others with staff support and begin to understand the importance of sharing and taking turns. Children develop the skills, confidence, and self-esteem needed to support the move on to the next stage in their learning.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The manager and staff have high expectations for what young children can achieve. They provide a broad and challenging curriculum that successfully builds on what children already know and can do. There is a good focus on children's communication, physical and personal development in preparation for children's move to pre-school.
- Staff are keen for children to become independent and support this very well. From a young age, children feed themselves, wash and clean their hands and help with their self-care. Toddlers enjoy finding their own bag when it is time for their nappy change and getting their wellington boots for outdoor play. Children are motivated and independent learners.
- Overall, staff support children's early language development well. They include a lot of singing and books into children's day. For example, staff spontaneously sing with children as they play and children love snuggling into their laps as they read books. Staff encourage plenty of conversation and commentate on children's play and actions. However, on occasion, staff speak too quickly to babies and use sentences that are overly long. This slightly limits babies' opportunities to hear, learn and use simple language and extend their good language development even further.
- Staff are very warm, loving, and nurturing practitioners. They get to know each

child very well and work closely with parents to help children settle as quickly as possible. Staff have identified a lack of social experience in new babies, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and work hard to combat this. Babies feel completely at home in the cosy environment and are more than happy to go to all staff for play and reassurance. Parents are delighted with the high levels of support they receive and praise the staff's commitment to the children.

- Staff plan well for children's learning and provide activities that link closely to their interests. For example, young children enjoy exploring flour and oil with their hands and use spoons to stir and pat the mixture. Children enjoy leading their play and explore the environment confidently. However, on rare occasions, staff do not reset the activities and resources as quickly as they could, which means some areas become less inviting. Despite this, overall, children explore their environment with confidence and engage busily in their play and learning.
- Staff follow young children's routines from home closely and put a strong emphasis on babies getting the sleep they need. Staff have recently completed training on this and created a warm, cosy room, where children go to sleep quickly and happily. This demonstrates the close attachments children form with all staff.
- The ambitious manager knows her staff team well and offers effective training, support, and coaching. She spends time observing staff in the playroom and listening to their ideas for further improvements. Staff are highly experienced but continue to spend time researching and learning about best practice and making improvements to the setting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding is taken seriously at the nursery. The manager and staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge through training, discussion, and wider research. Staff are regularly tested on their knowledge during meetings, and important information is easily accessible in the setting. Staff confidently know the signs to look out for that indicate that children's welfare may be at risk from abuse, including neglect and extreme views. The manager and staff know who to contact should they have a concern and understand the importance of working together to monitor changes in behaviour. They provide a safe and secure environment for all children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance staff's ability to build on babies' vocabulary to further support their good early language development
- focus even more on the good organisation of the environment to help young

children engage in their play and learning to the highest levels at all times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2508515
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10194447
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 2
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Fleming, Kate Mary
Registered person unique reference number	RP516812
Telephone number	01323 811899
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Nest At Laughton, Part Of Ripe Nursery School registered in 2018. It operates in Laughton, East Sussex. The nursery is open from 8am to 4pm each weekday, during term time. There are four staff members who work with the children, all of whom hold relevant qualifications between level 2 and qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector was given a tour of the nursery by the manager and carried out a learning walk to discuss the curriculum.
- The manager and the inspector discussed the play activities and children's learning during the inspection and undertook a joint observation of an activity.
- The views and opinions of the children, staff and parents were taken into account during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's play and assessed the impact of staff's teaching.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, including staff's suitability records and first-aid certificates.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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