

Inspection of Forest Row Community Pre-School

Hambro Hall, Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5DZ

Inspection date: 19 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children move happily and confidently around this open-plan setting. They freely access the resources and activities available to them. Some children explore the sandpit and creative area while other children enjoy a healthy snack. They are learning the rules and remind others of what is expected. For example, children tell others that they need to wash their hands before they can sit down for snack. Children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor area. They are helped to find their coats and boots before going outside. Children are shown how to put their coats on themselves.

Children are learning about how to manage their own risk. They are reminded not to run when it is icy, in case they slip over. Children's creative thinking is encouraged. They are involved in deciding how to get the small-world dinosaurs out of the ice. Some children use spades to break the ice and are reminded how to do this safely. Other children suggest tying rope around the dinosaurs and pulling them out. They work together and respect each other's ideas. Children show delight in their achievement as they free the dinosaurs.

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

- There have been recent changes to the committee that Ofsted is aware of. The manager is aware of the required checks needed before committee members can be deemed suitable. There are robust vetting procedures in place, including a risk assessment that the manager follows while waiting for these checks to be cleared.
- The manager has a clear focus for what she wants children to learn and why. For example, younger children are being supported to learn how to play. Older children's social and emotional development is being encouraged.
- Staff feel listened to and encouraged to develop professionally. They receive regular supervision sessions where they can discuss children's development and any training they need. Staff attend regular staff meetings and share ideas about how to promote children's learning.
- Staff understand what they are teaching children. They monitor children's development and plan how to encourage them further. For example, staff provide children with explanations for things and ask them questions about their play. However, staff do not always deploy themselves effectively in order to respond to all children. At times, staff are busy carrying out routines, such as tidying up, and miss opportunities to further children's learning.
- Parents are happy with the care their children receive. They know who their child's key person is and how they are supporting their learning and development. Parents are able to come into the setting to help their children to settle in. They feel kept up to date and able to speak to the staff if needed.

- The manager uses funding available to support the implementation of the curriculum. She recently purchased some books to help staff support children's emotional development. As a result, children are learning to say when they feel sad or happy.
- Children are learning how to behave, and staff explain what is expected of them. For example, they use sand timers to help children know when it is their turn in the ball pit. Younger children are supported to understand why they cannot throw sand. As a result, children behave very well.
- Staff encourage children to think about risk. They provide them with explanations to help them understand what is safe. For example, children are encouraged to tell others before jumping into the ball pit. However, staff do not always provide support to ensure that children who are learning English as an additional language have understood.
- Children enjoy eating together. They are given healthy snacks and bring in their own packed lunch. Staff promote children's social development at mealtimes. Children are encouraged to ask for either milk or water to drink. Some children are learning to sign and they show other children how to sign 'milk please'.
- Children go on regular outings into the local community. They visit the park and woodland areas. This promotes children's physical development as well as helping their understanding of the world around them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The designated safeguarding leads understand their role and responsibility. They know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff understand how to identify the signs of abuse and what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They know how to report an allegation against an adult working with children. Staff receive regular training and discuss safeguarding at staff meetings. Children are involved in learning how to keep themselves safe. They are encouraged to identify risks in the environment and discuss how to make things safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve the organisation of the room, including routines, to ensure all children have access to all learning opportunities
- develop how staff communicate with children to ensure all children are provided with consistent support, particularly those learning English as an additional language.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413894
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10269703
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 at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Forest Row Community Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP529958
Telephone number	01342825625
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

Forest Row Community Pre-School re-registered in 2010. It operates from the Hambro Hall in the village of Forest Row, East Sussex. The setting is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 3pm, during term time only. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. The pre-school employs six staff. Of these, five have relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Pippa Clark

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 provider.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The manager provided the inspector with a sample of key documents on request.

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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