

Inspection of Wren House Nursery School

Wren House Nursery School, 4-6 Salehurst Road, EASTBOURNE, East Sussex BN21 1QS

Inspection date: 6 July 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 develop a real love of learning in this homely, welcoming and inclusive nursery. Staff know every child and family exceptionally well, and they understand each child's unique character and learning style. This helps children to form close relationships with the staff and they settle very quickly. Staff provide an enjoyable and stimulating environment. They engage in play and learning experiences with the children, which help children to feel happy and safe. When children suggest changes to planned activities, staff respond positively. This shows that children are listened to by staff and their choices and ideas are valued.

Leaders have developed a challenging curriculum that caters for all children, particularly those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and those who speak English as an additional language. Staff plan activities well so that children have time to practise new skills and build on their existing knowledge. All children, including those who need extra help, make good progress. Staff create a positive atmosphere and encourage children to be kind and respectful to one another. Children confidently remind each other that 'sharing is caring' and any minor disagreements are very quickly resolved.

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

- The leadership team is highly effective in making ongoing continuous improvements. Staff training is given high priority. The long-serving team is stable and dedicated to providing the highest quality provision for children. Staff well-being is promoted extremely well by leaders, who care about the team and provide the relevant support when needed.
- Overall, teaching is good. Staff use the curriculum intentions well to identify what children need to learn and match it precisely to every child's planned next steps. Children gain important skills to support them when starting school. For example, they communicate clearly with adults and their friends, listen attentively, and concentrate well in their chosen activities. Generally, staff communicate clearly with children and extend their language well. However, very occasionally during activities, adults do not encourage children to work things out for themselves, or explain why something might have happened. This means that children are not always able to demonstrate their own problem-solving skills or ability to think in detail.
- The curriculum is broad, balanced and gives children good opportunities to learn about the wider world. As part of regular discussions, children talk about key figures, such as King Charles and the British prime minister. They celebrate events, such as Earth Day where they learn about the importance of protecting the environment for future generations. This helps children to develop awareness of their behaviour and actions on others, and prepares them well for

life in the modern world.

- Children fully understand the simple principles of democracy as they regularly vote for their favourite stories and work out how to develop positive solutions to issues as part of their play. These opportunities build children's self-confidence and self-esteem, and increase their understanding of the needs of others. Children with SEND and those who speak more than one language are fully integrated into all activities. The nursery's 'golden rules' and colourful characters, such as 'Louis Lion' and 'Elsa Elephant', clearly remind children to 'be honest' and 'try hard'. Children reflect these qualities well in their play and interactions with others.
- Staff promote children's literacy skills well. For example, they use children's favourite stories to plan activities. Younger children particularly enjoy the 'Dear Zoo' book. Staff have extended this interest well. They use practical activities effectively so that toddlers can touch a wide range of different textures and enjoy opening and closing the flaps on pictures. This develops the imagination of the youngest children and supports their language development well as they correctly name the animals.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents speak highly of the nursery and describe the staff as 'amazing'. They praise the way in which staff offer a nurturing and caring environment for their children, which prepares them well for starting school. Staff work hard to ensure that parents are continually involved in their children's care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have completed appropriate training and are fully aware of the signs that might suggest a child is at risk of harm. They confidently know how to report any concerns, including those that relate to the behaviour or conduct of a colleague. Good attention is paid towards ensuring that the nursery premises are consistently safe and secure. Staff use risk assessments well to identify any potential hazards. Leaders implement robust recruitment checks when taking on new members of staff to make sure that they are safe to work with children. Regular, ongoing checks ensure that staff remain suitable for their role in working with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve teaching further to give children greater opportunities, when needed, to work things out for themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360412
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10276422
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Jacqueline Winton & Carolyn Gadah Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP527235
Telephone number	01323 731 530
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2017

Information about this early years setting

Wren House Nursery School registered in 2007. It operates in the Old Town area of Eastbourne, East Sussex. The nursery is open between 8.30am and 5.15pm each weekday, for 47 weeks of the year. A team of five staff work with the children. Of these, four are qualified to level 3 and one is qualified to level 2 and completing level 3 training. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jo Caswell

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.
- The inspector completed a learning walk with the nursery owner and discussed how the curriculum is planned and delivered.
- The manager and inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity and reviewed the impact of teaching on children's learning.
- Staff spoke to the inspector at convenient times during the inspection about their role in teaching children and keeping them safe.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they enjoy doing at nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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