

Gingerbread Day Nursery

The Oval Park, Arundel Drive West, Saltdean, East Sussex, BN2 8SJ



Inspection date

19 May 2016

Previous inspection date

26 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the 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

This provision is good

- Staff form good partnerships with parents and involve them in their children's learning well, such as by encouraging them to contribute to their children's assessments.
- Staff work closely in partnership with school teachers to provide children with many opportunities to become familiar with the school setting prior to their move there. This helps children be well-prepared for their move on to school.
- Children are making at least expected progress from their starting points. Staff use children's interests to help them plan activities that meet their identified next steps in learning effectively. Children gain the skills they need for their future learning.
- Staff continue their ongoing professional development. For example, they take advantage of training opportunities, and other professionals' knowledge, to help them plan to meet the needs of children who require additional support.
- Children are confident and polite, and understand and follow the nursery's established routines well. Children build strong emotional attachments with their key workers.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to develop children's understanding of people's similarities and differences, to develop their awareness of diversity further.
- Some staff, on occasion, do not make the most of opportunities to use questions to increase children's thinking and extend their learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the range of opportunities available for children to explore and learn about the differences between themselves and others, to develop their awareness of diversity further
- continue to develop staff's use of questioning techniques to extend children's learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked the suitability of all members of staff and the documents relating to the safety of the children.
- The inspector and the deputy manager observed two different aged children at play and exchanged information about the observations.
- The inspector held discussions with the nominated person and with other members of staff.
- The inspector read the written comments from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector read the provider's self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management knows its role and is ambitious at driving improvements. Regular discussions take place between management and staff to identify training needs. Staff regularly check the environment to help ensure children can play in safety. Staff understand the procedures to follow if they have concerns for a child's welfare. The self-evaluation process regularly includes the views of parents, children and staff, and management uses these to help identify areas for improvement. For example, the addition of an all-weather surface helps staff enhance children's learning further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and make regular observations and assessments of their learning. They use this knowledge to help them plan a wide range of interesting activities, both inside and outside. For example, staff use children's enjoyment of making houses out of boxes for 'wiggly worms' in the mud kitchen to encourage children to delegate jobs to each other. Some children gather grass and others gather flowers to add to the boxes. Some staff ask children meaningful questions to extend their learning, such as to build on their observational skills as they notice that the soil soaked up the water. Staff provide older children with specific activities to develop their listening skills further in readiness for school. Staff help extend children's early literacy skills. For example, babies enjoy books and delightedly turn the pages. Staff make animal noises to represent the animals on the pages and babies show their enjoyment, such as by laughing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children feel safe in the nursery and their behaviour is good. Children learn to play cooperatively, and take turns and share well. The key-worker system is effective. Babies and children build strong emotional attachments to their key staff. Staff meet children's individual needs well and follow good hygiene routines. For example, they change babies' nappies regularly and keep a record of this available for parents. Staff use daily routines, such as mealtimes, to develop children's social skills and good manners effectively. Staff provide children with a range of healthy and nutritious foods. There is a wide range of resources readily available for children to choose for themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are able to lead their own play; for example, girls happily play together, role playing and pretending to be hairdressers. Children enjoy being creative. For example, they make boats out of boxes and paint them using a sponge. Children enjoy using thick paint and experiment using brushes with both hands. This helps develop their creative and mark-making skills. Staff actively encourage children's independence skills. For example, staff help babies get a tissue, wipe their noses and place the tissue in a bin.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428305
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1028715
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Sarah Jane Francis
Registered person unique reference number	RP515946
Date of previous inspection	26 September 2013
Telephone number	01273307330

Gingerbread Day Nursery registered in 2011 and is a privately run day nursery. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery currently supports children with special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language. The nursery receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are six members of staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and level 3.

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