

Early Explorers Pre School

Mile Oak Community Centre, Chalky Road, Brighton, BN41 2WF



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

3 January 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 organise the setting effectively to meet children's needs. There are plenty of challenging and stimulating resources that children enjoy exploring and using.
- Staff successfully identify and narrow any emerging gaps in children's development. The strong partnerships with external agencies and health professionals make a significant contribution to helping all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff provide children with plenty of opportunities to be active and play outside in the fresh air. Children show good coordination and strong physical skills.
- Staff interact well with children and extend their play and learning skilfully. For example, they use questioning effectively to encourage children to think about what they are doing and express their ideas. Children have good communication skills and are confident speakers.
- The management and staff team's thorough ongoing reflection and review of practice enables them to continually improve children's experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently encourage all parents to be more involved in contributing to children's learning and assessment. However, they keep parents well informed about children's progress and welfare.
- Children do not consistently have extensive opportunities to learn about keeping themselves and others safe when involved in challenging outdoor activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the strong partnerships with parents and provide further opportunities for them to share what they know about children's learning and development at home
- provide children with further opportunities to enhance their already good understanding of how to identify and manage risks to keep themselves safe.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and in the outdoor areas.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to members of staff at various times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, such as children's learning records and the provider's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Thorough recruitment and induction procedures help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff complete safeguarding training and have an up-to-date knowledge of what to do if they have a child protection concern. The manager carefully monitors all children's progress. She ensures that all children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities or who speak English as an additional language receive the targeted support they need to help them achieve. Additional funding is used well to meet children's needs and build on their learning. The manager actively encourages the professional development of all staff. For example, she observes staff practice and provides training that enhances their good teaching skills. Recent training has enabled staff to have a greater awareness of how to build on boys' interests and engage them in purposeful play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use systematic observations and accurate assessments of children to plan interesting activities that help every child make further progress. They know children well and, for instance, make good use of their interests to widen their learning experiences. For example, staff created a 'dinosaur museum' with writing materials and books for boys, in particular, who like dinosaurs. Staff successfully build on children's skills and give them confidence to try new things. For example, they model play and sensitively make suggestions that encourage children to 'have a go' themselves.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff maintain a safe and secure environment where children move around safely and independently. They give plenty of individual care and attention to those children who need it. New children settle quickly and show a strong sense of belonging. Children form strong attachments to adults and behave well. Staff are good role models who clearly demonstrate how to respect others and play together amicably. Children work cooperatively together, for example, when making imaginary food in a 'mud kitchen'. They scooped up soil and carried it to a friend to stir into a pot. Other children gathered sticks to make a pretend fire together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop well in the skills they need for a successful move to school. They initiate play and become absorbed in finding out about their world. For example, they thoroughly enjoy looking for bugs in the outdoor area. Children are curious and keen to learn. They are independent and self-confident. Children manage their personal care needs well. They eagerly take on responsibilities, such as telling their friends when it is snack time and what they can have to eat. Children readily take turns and share resources, such as when using wheelbarrows outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY495092
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1033357
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Early Explorers Pre School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904384
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07758 201464

Early Explorers Pre School registered in 2015. It operates from a community hall in Portslade, near Brighton in East Sussex. The setting opens on Monday from 8.30am to 12.30pm and on Tuesday to Friday from 8.30am to 3.30pm, during school term times. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs 13 staff. Of these, three staff have qualified teacher status, one member of staff has a qualification at level 6, five staff have level 3 and another has level 2.

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