

Hedgehog House Nursery School

8 Homefield Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 2HZ



Inspection date	26 November 2018
Previous inspection date	17 March 2016

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

- Children, including those with special educational needs (SEN) and those learning English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points. Staff use partnerships with a range of professionals effectively to ensure children receive the extra support they need and have equal opportunities to progress to their full potential.
- Staff teach children how to stay healthy. They promote positive attitudes towards nutritious foods with effective activities. For example, children grow fruit and vegetables, they collect eggs from the nursery's chickens and enjoy cooking healthy dishes, such as soup. Staff provide children with regular opportunities for exercise, including ballet sessions and yoga.
- The manager successfully ensures that staff work very well as a team and are greatly involved in ensuring children's needs are met fully. They continually support each other. They share their observations of children's achievements and interests throughout the day, to ensure key workers can make thorough assessments of children's progress.
- Staff work in close partnership with parents and involve them well in children's learning. They listen to parents and use their input to form a wide view of children's needs. They ensure that routines and systems used with children are consistent with those parents use.
- At times, staff do not act fully on opportunities to build on children's developing independence by enabling them to carry out parts of daily routines by themselves.
- Staff do not consistently use teaching strategies that encourage children to extend their thoughts and ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve children more in all aspects of the routine to help them carry out daily tasks by themselves
- strengthen staff's already good teaching skills to help them extend children's ideas and thoughts.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outdoors.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and staff's planning documentation, and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of children's learning and staff's practice, with the manager.

Inspector

Kerry Lynn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers ensure that staff use their strong knowledge of the signs that indicate a child's welfare is at risk to take action to protect children. Managers use the accurate evaluations that they make to drive change effectively. For example, they have developed new systems that are helping children to engage and learn more attentively. Managers work closely with staff to support them in their practice. For instance, staff have developed effective skills in promoting language development, especially with children who speak English as an additional language. Managers carefully monitor the progress children make to ensure they develop well in all areas. They have improved the provision for teaching early mathematics as a result of recent checks.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children well to find out about them and their abilities. They celebrate children's achievement enthusiastically. For example, when non-verbal children use alternative ways to communicate their wishes, this is quickly shared with their key workers. Staff understand well the progress children make and how to support them to meet their personalised developmental goals. Staff ensure that they learn how to meet the needs of individual children by attending courses and developing their own knowledge. For example, staff provide effective sessions which engage children with SEN and help them to develop their ability to concentrate.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff develop strong relationships with children, who show that they feel safe, secure and confident in their care. Children who feel overwhelmed easily, quickly settle when supported by staff who know how to make them calm. Staff prepare children effectively for when they move on to other settings, including school. They have learned from local schools where children need supporting most. As a result, they focus strongly on teaching children to take turns and to share. Staff promote a good understanding of the differences that exist between people. For instance, they represent children's home languages well and help children to learn about their countries of origin.

Outcomes for children are good

Children focus well on their play and learn through experimentation. For example, they find out what happens when they put balls down ramps or explore the sounds the different keys on a piano make. Children use numbers in their play, they talk about their friends' birthdays and make sure that the cakes they pretend to make have the correct numbers of candles. Children develop early literacy skills, and give meaning to the marks they make. For example, they identify the lines and circles they 'write' as words in a letter for an important person. They engage with books and talk about the pictures they see.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113520
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10066661
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Brown, Lynn Pamela
Registered person unique reference number	RP907904
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2016
Telephone number	01903 209922

Hedgehog House Nursery School registered in 1987. It operates from Worthing, West Sussex. The nursery opens every weekday from 9am to 3pm, during school term times. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs six staff. There are five staff, including the manager, who hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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