

Young Sussex Nursery (Portland Road)

165 Portland Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 5QJ



Inspection date	1 February 2017
Previous inspection date	4 February 2016

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

- Children are settled, confident and well behaved, due to the positive relationships which are at the heart of this busy nursery.
- The well-qualified and enthusiastic staff team value each child as an individual. They seek relevant information from parents to enable them to support each child's specific care needs.
- The nursery is clean, safe and provides a good range of interesting activities and resources for children to make their own choices, have fun and learn as they play.
- Leaders are motivated and enthusiastic to strive for high standards. There are strong partnerships with outside agencies to support children's education, care and wellbeing.
- Staff make good use of information about children's progress and development. They provide activities that challenge children and help them to make good progress in readiness for starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are occasions during the daily routine when staff do not prepare children for change and this results in children becoming confused.
- Although there have been significant improvements since the last inspection, some aspects of self-evaluation and staff supervision are not yet strong enough to secure outstanding teaching across all age groups.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further develop the quality of teaching by reflecting on how periods of change throughout the daily routine can be best managed for babies and toddlers
- consider ways of extending the self-evaluation and staff supervision arrangements to include a sharper focus on enhancing the quality of teaching across the whole staff team.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled planning and assessment records and a range of other documents.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff to consider their views on the nursery.
- The inspector held a management meeting with the leadership team.

Inspector

Linda du Preez

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective as procedures to keep children safe are robust. Staff are clear about their roles and leaders take their responsibilities very seriously. The arrangements in place for staff supervision are much improved, which helps to promote good outcomes for children. Nevertheless, there is scope to further enhance these, along with the systems for self-evaluation, to strive for consistently high-quality teaching across all age groups. Nevertheless, the educational programmes are effectively monitored. Leaders have a clear picture of the progress of individual children and how well groups of children are achieving. For example, they identified when some children needed support in their mathematical development and took effective action to improve this aspect of the educational programmes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The support for children's communication and language skills is a particular strength at the nursery. For example, staff teach babies new words and talk to them throughout the routine. They exchange interesting ideas with older children to extend and challenge their play and learning. The routines are generally well organised and staff plan interesting and enjoyable activities. However, some changes in the routine, such as preparing for meal times, are not as well organised as others. The nursery team work together well to make very good use of specific funding to ensure disadvantaged children make good progress. For example, when some children are not inclined to make marks or have a go at drawing, staff invest in specific writing resources to spark their interests. Children are able to use these resources wherever they are engrossed in play. This successfully motivates them to explore mark-making and early writing, thereby developing useful skills for the next stage in their education.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Babies care routines are based on information gathered from parents, resulting in babies being settled and secure. The nursery has a warm, welcoming and homely atmosphere due to the strong partnerships with parents. Babies show that they feel secure and close to staff when they reach for cuddles and reassurance, which are readily given. Staff are positive role models, and teach children to share, collaborate and take turns. Consequently, children are very well behaved and develop beneficial social skills for their future.

Outcomes for children are good

Because staff plan rich and varied activities, children become inquisitive, motivated learners who explore their own ideas and thoughts. For example, toddlers enthusiastically explore 'messy' and 'squelchy' paint. Staff skilfully link the words children use to describe the paint to familiar stories. Older children are enthusiastic and confident learners who work well together. For example, they delight in planning and designing large constructions as they share and work together as a team. Each room is set up to provide a welcoming age-appropriate space for children to have fun as they learn. Consequently all children make consistently good progress in their learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	130733
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1073688
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	98
Number of children on roll	142
Name of registered person	Ingrid Boyd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909620
Date of previous inspection	4 February 2016
Telephone number	01273 777 001

Young Sussex Nursery (Portland Road) registered in 1992 and is situated in Hove, East Sussex. The nursery is open from 7.45am to 6pm each weekday, all year round except for bank holidays and between Christmas and New Year. The nursery employs 27 staff; of these, 25, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff members holds Early Years Teacher Status and another staff member holds Early Years Professional Status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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