

# Inspection of Sparrows Nursery

Benfield Primary School, Old Shoreham Road, Portslade, Brighton BN41 1XS

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Inspection date: 31 October 2023

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<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
The quality of education	<b>Good</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Good</b>
Personal development	<b>Good</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Good</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Children develop good bonds with staff, and this has been a strong focus since the nursery recently opened. Children show they feel safe and happy in the staff's care and respond well to their calm direction. Staff use a sand timer to inform children of a change in the daily routine. This helps children to prepare themselves and then when it is time to tidy up, they are ready and able. Children are all included in making sure that their nursery is tidy. This grows their sense of belonging and an understanding of working together. Children learn about nature and how if they throw a sycamore seed into the air, it spins as it comes back down. They liken the action of the seed flying to a helicopter. This helps children to link concepts together and learn new skills.

Children have a short circle time. Staff demonstrate how to sit crossed-legged, and this enables children to copy and follow the simple instructions. Children say 'good morning' to each other and receive praise for responding to their names. This boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Children learn to count and also recognise numbers. They receive encouragement to say numbers in differing voices and clap as they count numbers both forwards and backwards. Children giggle as they copy the managers amusing voices and actions and they understand the funny side of things. There is a clear ambition for the curriculum for all children attending the nursery. The ethos is about making sure children feel secure to then enable them to learn and develop skills for their future learning.

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

- The manager plans the curriculum that she bases on the group of children attending and their ever-changing developmental needs. She fully understands how to plan for what children need to learn next and the importance of making sure that children feel safe and build effective relationships. The manager fully recognises that learning has a sequence and that children need to embed skills before they become second nature.
- The manager is an effective role model for her staff team. The provider and the manager ensure that they support staff's well-being and foster an approach of working together. This enables staff to access training and build on their knowledge, enhancing children's learning and development.
- Key persons know children's learning needs and styles. Staff discuss what children need to learn next, so they are aware of this when engaging with them. However, occasionally, staff are not always consistent in their interactions with children, which does not extend their learning even further.
- Staff use simple signing to aid children's communication skills and they can be heard singing throughout the day. For example, staff sing a simple, softly sung rhyme to gain children's attention. This enables children to focus and then

redirect them to the next activity or change of routine of the day.

- Children are learning about caring for their toys and each other. However, they sometimes walk over or tread on toys, and staff are not always consistent in how they support children's growing understanding. This does not further support children's awareness of respect.
- Children understand why they need to follow good hygiene practices. They sit as a whole group for snack and mealtimes and show good manners. Staff recognise those who need support with tasks, such as pouring their drinks and when others have learned and embedded this skill.
- The SENCo has a wealth of experience in her role and uses this to support staff and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. She enables staff to tailor activities and experiences to the needs of children and to seek further guidance from other agencies.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff know how to refer concerns they may have about a child or adult through following their safeguarding policy and procedures. The provider follows safer recruitment procedures to ensure that they are suitable to work with children. Children learn about their own safety, such as through the gentle direction from staff with reminders to use 'walking feet' when indoors. Children take risks in safe surroundings and build on their confidence in their abilities. For example, they are learning to climb in the outdoor area and staff are readily available to offer a supportive hand and words of encouragement.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- build on staff's interactions with children to enhance learning further
- build on children's understanding of respect for their environment, resources and each other.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2734036
<b>Local authority</b>	Brighton and Hove
<b>Inspection number</b>	10314290
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Sessional day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	2 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	34
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	24
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sparrows Nursery Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2734035
<b>Telephone number</b>	07472 435683
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Sparrows Nursery registered in June 2023 and is based in the grounds of Benfield Primary School in Portslade, Brighton. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am to 3.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Helen Penticost

## 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 managers and the inspector completed a learning walk together and discussed the early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the staff and interacted with the children.
- Parents shared their views about the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.

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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