

Elan Nursery

Unit 1, Chanctonfold, Horsham Road, Steyning, West Sussex, BN44 3AA



Inspection date

28 June 2018

Previous inspection date

9 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff are nurturing and highly responsive to children's needs. When children start at the nursery or move to another room, their emotional well-being is given the highest priority and they settle easily. Staff build superb relationships with babies and children, who are extremely happy and secure. Parents are highly appreciative of the nursery's work.
- The acting manager, who holds early years teacher status, is motivated and efficient. She is very well supported by the experienced childcare director. Together, they ensure the effective operation of the nursery, to provide a good-quality nursery experience for children and their families in an exceptionally good environment.
- Staff have a secure understanding of how babies and children learn and develop. They provide a broad range of engaging and well-resourced activities that motivates learning.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff use effective systems to keep parents informed about their child's day and progress. They share ideas of how parents can support learning further and value parents' contributions about children's achievements at home. Children of all ages and abilities, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers do not make consistently good use of staff development opportunities to improve teaching and learning, and help children to make even better progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate the impact of staff professional development opportunities to ensure these consistently improve practice and raise children's good outcomes further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed different activities and considered the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the acting manager to assess how well she monitors staff practice.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with staff and engaged with children.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team. She sampled some nursery documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.

Inspector

Susan Suleyman

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers evaluate the setting effectively and consult with staff, parents and children to reflect on practice and adapt the service offered. For example, groups led by an adult are now smaller to give children more attention. Managers use effective systems to closely monitor the progress of individual children and different groups, such as boys and girls. They identify any gaps and additional funding to close them swiftly, such as providing technology that appeals to girls. Managers support staff through regular meetings. They aid staff to develop team action plans for ongoing improvements across all aspects of the nursery. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand their responsibility to protect children and know what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff use a good range of teaching methods to promote children's learning. Staff fully involve children in making decisions, and learning experiences are continually evolving based on children's interests. For example, older children enjoyed role play in the 'beach café', following their interest in holidays. They demonstrated good cutting skills as they made paper ice lollies. Staff use the focus on reading to inspire learning. Children enjoy using their imagination while acting out familiar stories. For example, younger children considered ways to stop the big bad wolf eating them and counted out some apples. Babies chose their favourite book and snuggled up with staff in the cosy corner. Staff repeated new sounds to support children's developing speech.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide children with clear and consistent boundaries, and behaviour is excellent. Older children independently manage sharing as they use a timer extremely well and remind each other of expected behaviour. Staff effectively help children recognise and manage their feelings and teach tolerance of others consistently well. Staff are superb role models, which enhances all aspects of children's learning and development. Staff promote an extremely positive environment of mutual trust and respect. They listen extremely carefully to children and value their views and efforts. For example, staff take time to show examples of children's achievements in stunning displays. Children show high self-esteem. Children learn about good health. They know the need to use hats and sun cream in the sun. Babies thoroughly enjoy innovative water play to keep cool.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the key skills that prepare them for the next stage in their learning and school. They cooperate together and make good friendships. Children successfully manage risks themselves and gain strong coordination and physical skills. Older children solve their own problems effectively, such as how to reach the tree swing safely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413549
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1130886
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	158
Name of registered person	Elan Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905577
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2015
Telephone number	01903810100

Elan Nursery registered in 2010. It operates from a purpose-built building, situated in Steyning, West Sussex. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery also provides before- and after-school care during term time only. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 32 members of staff. Of these, 27 hold early years qualifications.

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