

Amigos Multi-Cultural Pre-School



Cornerstone Community Centre, 1 Church Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 2FL

Inspection date	4 June 2015
Previous inspection date	15 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The leadership and management meet termly with staff to discuss and identify areas for support or development. The staff team is well qualified and highly motivated to learn more. They have a range of different skills that complement each other well.
- Staff have very good partnerships with parents. They talk regularly to parents and share observations and assessments with them about how their children are progressing. They work closely together to support children to make good progress.
- Staff plan interesting creative activities that encourage children to explore colours and textures. As a result, children are confident to express their imaginations and show pride in the artwork they make.
- Children understand about different countries in the world because staff plan regular activities to teach them about other cultures. Children learn about different celebrations and they taste different types of food. This helps them to understand the similarities and differences between themselves and other children.
- Staff use robust safeguarding procedures, including checking the suitability of staff. All staff have a comprehensive understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children from harm and help to keep children safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not react quickly to the rising noise levels inside the pre-school which means that occasionally they do not attend to children's needs promptly enough.
- Occasionally, hygiene practices at the pre-school are insufficiently robust which means that staff do not consistently protect children from germs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve staff awareness of how noise impacts on children's learning so that the environment is always welcoming, encourages children to join in and consistently supports their emotional well-being
- review hygiene practices so that staff protect children from germs more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the pre-school and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke to all staff about their understanding of their safeguarding roles and responsibilities.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of practice with the pre-school supervisor.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and children during the inspection and considered their views.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including pre-school policies and procedures, information provided for parents and self-evaluation documents.

Inspector

Rebecca Swindells

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Children can learn in a variety of ways because staff encourage them to choose what, where and how they play. Staff teach children to share and take turns with each other. This means that children are friendly and enjoy the games they play together. Children develop well physically and learn to manage their own risks because they practise running, throwing and balancing skills in the garden. They learn to control the small muscles in their fingers during interesting activities such as using chopsticks as part of Chinese New Year celebrations. Staff support children's developing writing skills by providing a range of interesting activities to practise making marks. This prepares children well for school. Staff teach children about numbers and counting as they routinely count children into and out of the garden. Staff encourage children's curiosity by involving them in activities that fascinate and excite them. Children explore dripping drops of colour into a tray of milk and delight in seeing the colours mix and change. Staff skilfully question and challenge children to think about what they know while they add washing up liquid to the mixture.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The key-person system is well established. Parents trust the staff and feel that they are approachable and knowledgeable about their children. Children are confident, feel safe and behave well because staff are good role models with high expectations. Staff prepare children well for school by helping them to become independent. They learn to manage their own clothes and choose their resources with minimal support. Staff share information effectively with teachers so when children start school they can get the support they need.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The leadership and management team supports staff's professional development and encourages them to use what they learn to improve what they do. Recent training on supporting communication skills has meant that staff are now confident to identify and access support for children who may benefit from additional help. Staff benefit from the knowledge and experience of the pre-school supervisor. She works alongside them every day demonstrating best practice and offering support and advice. Such positive working relationships mean that children benefit from the staff's commitment to do well. The supervisor monitors the robust observations and assessments staff make of children's achievements. Together they use the assessments to help them identify children's individual needs and plan effectively to help children succeed. The leadership and management team and staff reflect on what they do and what needs to change. Staff encourage parents and children to tell them what they need to do to improve and they work hard to put new initiatives in place.

Setting details

Unique reference number	130734
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	836289
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	26
Name of provider	Amigos Multi-cultural Pre-school Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2011
Telephone number	07835635955

Amigos Multi-cultural Pre-School registered in 1999. It is situated in the Cornerstone Community Centre, St John's Church in Hove, East Sussex. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday, term time only. It opens from 9.15am to 12.15pm and some children attend a lunch club until 1.30pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. In addition, the pre-school is open until 3.15pm on a Tuesday afternoon. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years old. The pre-school employs five staff, all of whom hold childcare qualifications.

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