

Mohair Centre Holiday Playscheme, After School Club & Nursery

Brickfield Farm, Whitesmith, Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 6JG



Inspection date

31 May 2018

Previous inspection date

27 August 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff effectively support children's physical well-being. Children spend plenty of time outdoors, playing in the very well-resourced gardens and exploring the exciting nursery farm grounds. They have extensive opportunities to be active in all weather.
- The managers and staff keep parents well informed about their children's development and suggest helpful ideas to encourage further learning at home.
- Children are very happy, confident and secure. They enthusiastically attend the nursery and take part in a wide range of enjoyable activities. Staff get to know each child well and value their individuality highly. Their caring approach helps to create a positive, nurturing environment where children build trusting bonds.
- The managers and staff work successfully with local speech and language therapists. They share expertise to help children who need additional support. All children make good progress from their starting points in learning, regardless of their circumstances.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The managers do not monitor staff performance rigorously enough to help identify precise areas for further development and achieve outstanding practice.
- The managers do not precisely monitor the progress different groups of children make in their learning, to help close gaps and support rapid progress for all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance systems for monitoring and supporting staff to help raise the quality of practice to the highest level
- monitor the progress children make more precisely, to support specific groups of children further and identify any potential gaps in provision to help children make rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practice and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector read some of the nursery's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The ambitious managers reflect closely on the effectiveness of the nursery and actively include staff in their self-evaluation and improvement plans. Together, they have recently improved children's outdoor experiences further. For example, they have introduced exciting new 'forest school village' sessions, giving children more time to explore, investigate and create outdoors. Overall, the managers support the continued professional development of their well-qualified staff team well. They offer good support, guidance and further training opportunities to help staff develop their skills. After recent training, staff have improved their support for children's physical activity and introduced new daily physical sessions and games. Safeguarding is effective. The managers and staff have up-to-date knowledge of how to deal with any child protection concerns and follow thorough procedures. They vigilantly assess risks and maintain children's safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's development closely, and keep accurate, detailed records of their achievements and interests. They use 'in the moment' planning successfully, which helps them to respond to children's ideas and offer flexible experiences. For example, pre-school children excitedly decide to put pots and containers in the rain to see how much water they can collect. Staff then encourage them to measure the water using rulers and children confidently use numbers to compare the results. Staff give younger children plenty of opportunities to explore sensory play and develop their curiosity about the world. For example, babies eagerly dig mud in the allotment and investigate worms carefully in their hands, and two-year-old children enjoy mixing paint with water.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very independent and confidently lead their own play, moving freely between the stimulating indoor and outdoor environments. Children of all ages learn to care for and consider the needs of a wide range of farm animals, plants and vegetables. They excitedly feed the animals, tend to the nursery allotment and help with farmyard responsibilities. Children behave well and respond positively to staff encouragement and guidance. Children develop strong social skills and friendships, and happily include others in their play, such as when pretending to be doctors and patients in their role play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages are motivated learners and are willing to give things a try. Babies settle quickly and confidently explore their environment. They learn new words quickly and older children express themselves confidently, communicating well. Children enjoy stories and enthusiastically join in, discussing what might happen next. They count as they play and begin to solve simple number problems. Children are creative, imaginative and well prepared for the next stage in their learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	156379
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1127277
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	1 - 8
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	200
Name of registered person	Jacqueline Webb
Registered person unique reference number	RP511850
Date of previous inspection	27 August 2015
Telephone number	1825872457

Mohair Centre Holiday Playscheme, After School Club & Nursery registered in 1996. It operates from a number of small buildings situated on a farm in Chiddingly, East Sussex. The nursery opens five days a week throughout the year, from 8am to 6pm. The holiday playscheme operates every school holiday from 8.30am to 6pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 26 members of staff, 22 of whom have relevant childcare qualifications between qualified teacher status and level 3.

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