

Chelwood Gate Nursery

Chelwood Gate Village Hall, Beaconsfield Road, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath,
RH17 7LF



Inspection date	20 February 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The manager considers the views of staff, children and parents when evaluating her setting and practice. For example, parents suggested creating a wormery and children learn effectively about the natural world. Children, staff and parents contribute to the improvement of practice and the development of the setting well.
- Children learn to be independent and begin to experiment and learn about cause and effect as they explore wet and dry sand. Children learn skills for the future.
- The manager effectively keeps staff up to date with new legislation and practice ideas.
- The managers good settling-in procedures and comprehensive information about children enable staff to plan for the children's progress right from the start.
- Children are prepared well for school in a number of different ways. For example, they begin to learn how to link letters and sounds.
- The children form strong attachments to the manager and staff. They are keen to learn in a safe and welcoming environment where they are valued and respected.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager and staff do not provide consistent messages to help children build on their understanding of expectations for good behaviour.
- Children do not benefit from extensive opportunities to learn how to use technology for a purpose.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff knowledge even further and help them to consistently provide clear instructions for children about what is expected of them at different times and in different situations
- strengthen the opportunities for children to use technology and develop their understanding of how things work even more.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the premises and sampled some documentation.
- The inspector observed the manager and staff interacting with children.
- The inspector interviewed the manager and carried out a joint observation with her.
- The inspector spoke to children and viewed their activities.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan Allen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager monitors and tracks all children's development well, including those who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. She identifies any gaps in learning and puts a plan in place to address these. The manager and staff have good partnerships with other agencies, parents and other settings children attend. For example, staff work well with parents and share information, such as using interesting toys with mechanical novelties to extend children's listening and concentration skills. The manager supports staff effectively. She identifies any professional development needs and provides staff with the appropriate support. For instance, after attending training staff are more aware of how to support those children who learn best outdoors. The manager and staff know what to do and whom to contact if they have a concern about children's welfare. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children learn to explore the natural world. For example, they learn about worms and how they benefit the soil. Staff effectively plan activities for children of all abilities. For example, during story time staff used exaggerated tones and actions to make the story exciting for younger children and asked questions of older children. Staff develop children's mathematical knowledge well. Younger children recognise shapes and older children do simple additions and learn mathematical language, such as 'one more', 'many' and 'altogether'. Children consider where rain comes from and staff encourage them to test their ideas. For example, children explore how water always runs down. Staff help them to experiment with their learning and ideas well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's knowledge of personal risk well. For example, children jump off a ledge onto plastic mats on the floor. They know not to jump if someone is in the way and once they land they push the mats back together for the next child. Children have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. The manager and staff act as positive role models. Staff praise children and build on their developing self-esteem and confidence effectively. Children choose their own resources and are motivated to learn. Children learn about healthy eating well. For example, staff discuss how healthy ingredients are used in recipes to make food good to eat.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn to share, take turns and play together. For example, children worked in a small group to make and decorate pretend cookies. Children learn good communication and language skills. For instance, older children learn words such as 'jellyfish' and younger children repeat back words they have learned. Children's physical skills develop well, for example, as they ride on balance bicycles. Children make good progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489716
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1034245
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Chelwood Gate Nursery CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP901862
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07864079212

Chelwood Gate Nursery opened in 1975. The nursery re-registered in 2015. The nursery operates from the village hall in Chelwood Gate, East Sussex. The nursery is open from 9am to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 9am to 1.30pm on Thursday and from 9am to 1pm on Friday. The nursery operates during school term time only. The nursery receives funding for free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are six members of staff; of these, four hold early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The setting supports a Reggio Emilia approach to learning.

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