

Inspection of Bright Horizons Portswood Day Nursery and Preschool

27 Winn Road, Portswood, Southampton, Hampshire SO17 1EJ

Inspection date: 12 September 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children clearly feel safe and secure and demonstrate they are happy at Bright Horizons Portswood. Staff are warm and welcoming to children. Young children run to their key person for cuddles when they enter the room. Children settle in quickly and staff support them to play and learn. At times, however, staff step in too quickly to help children and do not consistently support children's developing independence skills.

Staff know the children well. They plan activities based on children's interests, which helps to engage children in their learning. Children are confident and enthusiastic learners. Staff teach children to consider their own safety. For example, staff use the nursery mascot to remind children to think before they act. Children develop good spoken communication skills. For instance, younger children showed great delight in exploring the 'tap tap' box of song props which staff use effectively to help develop children's speech. Staff listen carefully to what children have to say, although occasionally support for some children learning English as an additional language is inconsistent.

The managers ask parents, children and staff for their feedback to help identify areas to improve. Older children, for example, have their say through a pre-school committee in the activities they want to do and the resources they want to play with. Staff ensure children's voices are heard and their views considered.

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

- Staff support children's learning and development well. They consider what children already know and enjoy and think about how to extend children's learning further. The activities and experiences that staff plan contribute to children's learning in all areas. For instance, 'potion making' activities support older children to experiment and investigate. Staff introduce new vocabulary such as 'fragrant', 'trickling' and 'buoyant' as children play. This helps children to hear and learn new words.
- Children are confident across the nursery. They readily share their experiences with visitors. Staff support children's understanding using visual signs and prompts, although these are not consistently used throughout the nursery.
- Staff have high expectations for children. They challenge children to extend their learning. At times, however, staff complete tasks that children could manage themselves and children are not consistently developing their independence skills. Children climb trees, run and play energetically outdoors. This supports their physical health. Older children play alongside younger children. This helps build new friendships and supports children as they move to new rooms in the nursery.

- Staff are positive role models for children. They have clear expectations for children's behaviour. Children behave well and demonstrate a positive attitude towards staff.
- Babies enjoy many sensory experiences. For instance, babies are fascinated by feeling the texture of sand outdoors. Staff sensitively encourage children to explore and play. Older children take delight in investigating the colours they can make by mixing paint. They enthusiastically use their hands to explore the feel of the paint. Children of all ages display a positive attitude to learning.
- Staff regularly monitor children's learning. They identify any gaps in learning and put steps in place to close these. Additional funding and support is effectively used. Staff work effectively with other settings children attend and any professionals involved with children. This ensures high levels of consistency for children's care and learning.
- Managers observe staff practice regularly. They identify where staff need support to develop their skills, knowledge and practice. Staff benefit from many training opportunities to help improve their teaching, such as a recent focus on supporting children's spoken communication. Managers support staff well-being effectively. More experienced staff act as buddies to support new members of staff. They communicate effectively with each other and work as a team to care for children.
- Staff communicate effectively with parents about their children's time at nursery. Newsletters, as well as daily conversations with staff, keep parents informed. Parents report that the staff are very supportive and reassuring.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers ensure all staff attend appropriate training to develop the knowledge they need to keep children safe. Staff understand their responsibility to promote children's well-being. They know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare. Safe and thorough procedures are in place to recruit new staff. Managers ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Through effective ongoing supervision, they help staff to develop the skills they need for their roles in the nursery.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- help staff to understand how to support children's independence consistently across the nursery
- review the use of visual support systems for children to ensure that where strategies are in place these are effectively and consistently used to support children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY286410
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	10069010
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 5
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	81
Name of registered person	Asquith Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900811
Telephone number	023 8055 2304
Date of previous inspection	3 January 2014

Information about this early years setting

Bright Horizons Portswood Day Nursery and Preschool opened in 1994 and moved to Bright Horizons ownership in 2016. It is located in Southampton, Hampshire. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, throughout the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 24 members of staff to work with the children, of whom 15 hold childcare qualifications at level 3 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Dean

Inspection activities

- The inspector and manager completed a learning walk throughout the nursery to understand how the early years provision and curriculum is organised.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the manager.
- The inspector observed the staff and children as they played and held discussions with them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents talked to the inspector about their views of the nursery.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and managers to discuss the leadership and management of the nursery.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff suitability checks and children's records.

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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