

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Agenda Item 21**  
Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Summary of Ofsted Reports and Diocesan inspections of voluntary aided schools

**Date of Meeting:** Wednesday 24 September 2008

**Report of:** Director of Children's Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: Hilary Ferries, Acting Senior Primary Adviser and Linda Ellis, Senior Secondary Advise  
Tel: 29-3738  
29-3686

E-mail: [Hilary.ferries@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Hilary.ferries@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
[Linda.ellis@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Linda.ellis@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Wards Affected:** All

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report contains information relating to the outcome of the Ofsted inspections at the end of Autumn term 2007 and the Spring and Summer Terms 2008.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To note the report on the outcome of the school Ofsted inspections.

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The former Education Overview and Scrutiny Panel agreed (June 2000) that they would receive copies of all Ofsted and denominational reports that had taken place in the preceding period.
- 3.2 In September 2005 a new framework for the inspection of schools was brought into force. This framework reflects the requirement in the Children Act 2004 for Ofsted to develop a framework for the integrated inspection of children's services. This means that schools with childcare provision on site which is overseen by the schools governors'

will have both the childcare and educational provision inspected at the same time.

3.3 All schools and early years settings are inspected at least once every three years, usually giving about two days' notice. However, if Her Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) is concerned about the safety or well-being of pupils in a school, HMCI will exercise the right to inspect a school without notice.

- Schools are required to notify parents of the inspection, and to include details of how they can pass their views to inspectors. Parents can ask to speak to inspectors during the inspection and these requests will be accommodated as far as practical.
- The inspections last no longer than two days, and the team consists of from one to five inspectors depending on the size of the school. They look at the school's self-evaluation, consider the school's performance results, and examine the previous inspection report to prepare before the visit. The self-evaluation form is used as the basis for discussion between the lead inspector, the senior team of the school and, where possible, the governors.
- Once they are in the school, the inspectors sit in on lessons and examine the way lessons are planned, among other things. At the end of the inspection they report the school's overall effectiveness, taking into account the **outcomes**;
  - progress pupils make whilst they are in the school
  - attainment of pupils (usually decided by tests or exams)
  - personal development of the pupils

and the quality of **provision**:

- teaching and learning
- delivery of the curriculum and other activities
- care, guidance, and support given
- leadership and management
- the extent to which it enables learners to be healthy
- the extent to which it ensures that learners stay safe
- how well learners enjoy their education
- the extent to which learners make a positive contribution to the school

- how well learners develop workplace and other skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being

These inspections will also evaluate the 'Every Child Matters' five outcomes for children:

- Being Healthy
  - Staying Safe
  - Enjoying and Achieving
  - Making a Positive Contribution
  - Achieving Economic Well-Being
- Each aspect above is judged on a four point scale. Outstanding (well above average or much better than usually seen); Good (above average and better than usually seen); satisfactory or adequate (average); Unsatisfactory or inadequate.
  - Under the new framework, the reporting process also includes a letter to pupils at the school which gives them information about the results of the inspection.

- 3.4 If several aspects of the school are inadequate, the inspectors can say that the school requires some intervention from the Local Authority. There are two categories of schools causing concern, those deemed to require special measures and those requiring a notice to improve.
- 3.5 Patcham High school and Cedar Centre inspections took place at the end of the Autumn term 2007 as did a monitoring inspection of a Grade 3 school at Rudyard Kipling Primary. Elm Grove Primary school, Somerhill school and West Blatchington Junior school inspections took place in the Spring term 2008. Portslade Infant school, Queens Park Primary school, Patcham House, Davigdor Infant school, Downs Junior school inspections took place in the summer term 2008. The reports for these schools are attached.
- 3.6 We will also provide summaries of diocesan Section 48 inspection reports which apply only to voluntary aided and controlled schools. These reports include information and a judgement on the distinctiveness of a church school, the quality of their religious education and collective worship. A judgement is also made of the leadership and management of the schools in terms of its aided status. We have 15 Church of England and Roman Catholic primary schools and one Roman Catholic secondary school.
- 3.7 We are also for sending you summaries of Ofsted Inspection reports for Early Years Provision. The judgements in these reports are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004;

the National Standards for the Under 8's Day Care and Childminding and the Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage.

- 3.8 Boomerang Kids/St Martin's Pre-School Learning Alliance, St Peter's Church Playgroup, Southern Cross Pre-School, See Saw Pre-School and Meadowview inspections took place in the spring term 2008. Brighton and Hove High School, The Playstation, St Aubyns School, Happitots, Playcare Nursery, NurseryTyme and Little Angels inspections took place in the summer term 2008. The reports for these early years settings are attached.

#### **4. Comment**

##### **4.1 Davigdor Infant School**

Somerhill Road, Hove, BN3 1RG

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 269

The inspection took place on 3 and 4 July 2008

The overall judgement was that Davigdor Infant School was an outstanding school.

Positive aspects identified in the report included:

- Consistently high standards.
- Pupils' enjoyment of school.
- Outstanding quality of teaching
- The excellent curriculum which stimulates pupils' enthusiasm for learning.
- Rigorous monitoring of lessons and pupils' progress
- Outstanding achievement for all pupils of all abilities.
- Very strong partnership with parents
- Outstanding care, guidance and support
- Excellent leadership

What the school should do to improve further:

Ensure that children's concentration does not wane because they are sitting passively for too long.

##### **4.2 Portslade Infant School**

Locks Hill, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2LA

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 305

The inspection took place on 6 and 7 May 2008

The overall judgement was that Portslade Infant School was a good school with some outstanding features.

Positive aspects identified in the report included:

- The excellent curriculum which is exciting, well balanced and very relevant to pupils' needs and interests.
- The outstanding provision for children in the Reception classes.
- The Headteacher's excellent leadership and enthusiastic senior leadership team.
- Excellent partnerships with local businesses and organisations to enhance the school's provision.
- Pupils' enjoyment of school
- Outstanding self-evaluation processes
- Good progress children are making.

What the school should do to improve further:

- Ensure that teachers always expect enough of more able pupils, especially in writing in Year 1.
- Make sharper use of marking and target setting to help pupils know how they can improve their work.

### **4.3 Downs Junior School**

Rugby Road, Brighton, BN1 6ED

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 504

The inspection took place on 8 July 2008 and was carried out by an Additional Inspector.

The overall judgement was that Downs Junior School was a good school where pupils achieve well and learn to become responsible citizens. The school received Grade 2 (Good) for all categories except Healthy Lifestyles which was judged to be Outstanding.

Good leadership and management has ensured continued progress since the last inspection so that there is good academic support and good teaching which means that pupils make good progress. Consequently, standards are above average in English, Mathematics and Science.

Positive aspects identified:

- Particularly fast progress in developing writing skills throughout the school
- Provision in music is outstanding
- Pupils produce very high quality work in art
- In spite of having no playing field, the school achieves much in terms of sports, physical activity and healthy lifestyles
- Members of staff take good care of the pupils so that personal development and well-being are good
- Pupils are polite and courteous and work hard
- There are good systems in place to ensure senior leaders are able to tackle any weaknesses quickly

What the school should do to improve:

- Ensure that teachers always provide the right level of challenge for all pupils, especially in mathematics
- Strengthen the role of the subject leaders in monitoring teaching and learning

#### **4.4 Somerhill Junior School**

Somerhill Road, Hove BN3 1RP

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 384

This school was inspected under a reduced tariff inspection on the 19 March 2008. OFSTED considered the school to be a 'good school'.

Teaching was considered to be 'good' and the curriculum itself to be outstanding. Leadership and management of the school at all levels was 'good'.

Four out of five priorities of the Every Child Matters agenda were graded outstanding.

What the school should do to improve further:

- Improve the quality of the marking of written work to ensure that all pupils receive appropriate praise for good work and are shown ways of further improving it.
- Ensure that more parents are satisfied with the quality of the school's communication about their children's progress and the work of the school.

#### **4.5 West Blatchington Junior**

Hangleton Way, Hove, Hove, BN3 8BW

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 158

The school was inspected 19 and 20 March 2008. The overall judgement was Satisfactory. OFSTED recognised that all the pupils are valued and respected and especially the less able.

Good pastoral care ensures all pupils with specific needs are well supported. The school was considered to have strengths in spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. Partnership working was praised as was the childrens' positive contribution to the community.

Leadership and management were recognised as satisfactory. Pupils' standards were considered mainly below average and need to rise.

What the school should do improve further

- Improve achievement, especially in mathematics by ensuring that the strategies put in place are rigorously monitored in order to fully address the legacy of past underachievement.
- Enable greater consistency in teaching by ensuring all teachers match work well to pupils needs and challenge them through questioning.
- Ensure targets and marking are used more consistently to bring about improvement in pupils' work and accelerate their rates of progress.

It is likely that this school will be re-inspected within a year.

#### **4.6 Elm Grove Primary School**

Elm Grove, Brighton, BN2 3ES

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 423

The inspection took place on 12 and 13 March.

The overall judgement was that Elm Grove Primary School was a good school with a very caring ethos which enables most pupils to become confident learners who much enjoy their education. The school received Grade 2 (good) for all the categories except for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development which was judged to be 'outstanding' and governance which was 'satisfactory'.

The pupils achieve well overall with progress being 'satisfactory' in the Foundation Stage, 'satisfactory' and improving in Key Stage 1 and 'good' in Key Stage 2.

The report praises the outstanding range of initiatives which support the development of the school and acknowledges that it is a truly inclusive school where every child really matters.

Positive aspects identified in the report:

- The headteacher has created a very caring ethos
- Progress is particularly good because the school has a higher than average number of pupils with learning difficulties and /or disabilities
- Standards in science are particularly good
- Pupils really enjoy school and are keen to learn and behave well
- There are very good links with local community groups
- Pupils benefit from a wealth of enrichment opportunities
- The school has good capacity for continued improvement

What the school needs to do to improve further:

- Raise the achievement and standards in writing, particularly for younger pupils
- Improve the consistency of marking and use of assessment information to help the pupils understand what they need to do to improve their work

#### **4.7 Queens Park Primary School**

Park Street, Brighton BN2 2BN

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 353 (including 49 part time)

The inspection took place on 20 and 21 May 2008. The school was judged to be good overall with a strong inclusive ethos and pastoral care which encourage pupils' personal and academic development.

The effectiveness of the foundation stage was judged to be good as were achievement and standards, personal development and well being, the quality of provision and leadership and management.

The school was praised for the use of the local area to enrich learning and 'one world week' which strengthened cultural development and the strong positive relationships between all school members.

The headteacher has 'a clear and effective commitment to improvement and is supported by a good senior team and committed governing body'.

To improve further the school has been asked to:

- Provide better opportunities to use writing skills in all subjects to raise the standard of pupils' writing
- Work more closely with parents and pupils to improve attendance



#### **4.8 Rudyard Kipling Primary School**

Chalkland Rise, Brighton, BN2 6RH

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 371 (including 21 part time)

This Ofsted 'monitoring of Grade 3 schools' visit and took place on 1 November 2007.

The inspector judged the school to be making good progress against the issues for improvement identified in the inspection in September 2006 which were:

- To improve achievement by ensuring teachers make more effective use of data
- Ensure that the teaching and learning in Years 1-6 are more consistent and build upon the good practice evident in the foundation stage
- Develop governors' role in challenging the school, holding it to account and ensuring that all statutory requirements are met
- Ensure that the monitoring arrangements involve all staff, and that the impact of the initiatives to improve standards is evaluated

The school has been part of the Intensifying Support Programme which has addressed the identified areas of weakness and improving standards, achievement and the leadership in English and mathematics.

The inspector praised the work of the new headteacher and the changes that have already been put in place. The inspector also recorded that the LA has provided a good level of support and challenge to the school.

#### **4.9 Patcham High School**

Ladies Mile Road, Brighton, BN1 8PB

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 937

Following the school's being placed in the Notice To Improve category by Ofsted in October 2006, the school was re-inspected on 28 and 29 November 2007. The outcome was a very positive one with the school now judged as providing a satisfactory standard of education. This reflects the commitment of the headteacher and her staff, and the considerable level of support provided to the school by Brighton & Hove advisory staff.

The report comments that the headteacher "has worked tirelessly and effectively to increase the capacity of leadership to drive up standards" and

that as a result the level of achievement is improving. New appointments have strengthened the senior leadership team.

Positive aspects identified in the report included:

- The satisfactory level of leadership and management
- The school's satisfactory capacity to make further necessary improvements
- Satisfactory achievement and standards
- Satisfactory personal development and well-being, with the ethos of the school characterised by positive relationships
- Effective teaching and learning despite some inconsistency, and a good curriculum offer which has improved student motivation and enjoyment of learning

Priorities recommended for further improvement were:

- Improve achievement and standards by further increasing the proportion of good and outstanding teaching, and ensuring all teachers quickly embrace the methods that are accelerating students' progress
- Develop the capacity of middle leaders to evaluate the work of their teams, with a sharp focus on students' achievement and the consistent implementation of policies and procedures
- Make sure all teachers and learning support staff use assessment information to match learning to students' needs precisely

The school is likely to receive an interim monitoring visit before its next full inspection.

#### **4.10 Cedar Centre**

Lynchet Close, Hollingdean, Brighton, BN1 7FP

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 122

The Cedar Centre was inspected on 6 December 2007. This was the first inspection of the amalgamated school formed from Uplands and Castledean. The school was judged to be satisfactory overall and praise was given for the new headteacher who had set a clear sense of direction for the staff.

Teaching is good as is the personal development of the pupils. The curriculum offer is good and meets the needs of the pupils

To improve further the school should:

- Provide clearer targets for pupils and improve marking so that pupils have a better understanding of what they need to do to improve.

- Analyse whole-school assessment data so that any areas of relative underachievement are quickly picked up and acted upon.
- Ensure that there is consistent practice in all aspects of the school's work.

#### **4.11 Patcham House School**

7 Old London Road, Brighton, BN1 8XR

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 54

Patcham House Special School was inspected on 5 June 2008. It is judged to be a good school where pupils progress well and leave school with confidence to face future challenges.

The school was praised for the curriculum which is outstanding because so much is offered to meet the learning and developmental needs of pupils. This includes provision to help them settle into school when they first arrive, and support when the time comes to move on to college or paid work. Another strength is that the school works exceedingly well with a very wide range of partners to enrich provision.

All other aspects of the school are good although the governance of the school was satisfactory due to it being comparatively new and requiring some training.

In order to improve further the school should:

- Develop the school's behaviour policy and improve its consistent application, ensuring parents are very closely involved.
- Improve the contribution of governors by ensuring they receive training and support to better enable them to lead the school and fully evaluate and monitor its work

#### **4.12 Boomerang Kids/St. Martin's Pre-School Learning Alliance**

Saltdean Barn, Oval Park, Arundel Drive West, Saltdean, Brighton, BN2 8SJ

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 42

Type of setting: Sessional care

The inspection took place on 15 February 2008.

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are outstanding
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are outstanding

#### Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged outstanding for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do.
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

#### Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding, which means children are making excellent progress towards the early learning goals. Planning is comprehensive and encompasses all areas of learning, ensuring that children are provided with a highly stimulating and well-balanced curriculum. Staff carry out daily assessments and observations on their key children; these are directly used to inform the short term planning.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

The quality and standards of care:

- No recommendations for improvement

The quality of nursery education:

- No recommendations for improvement

### **4.13 Brighton and Hove High School**

Radinden Manor Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 6NH

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 400

Type of care: Independent girls' school for children aged 3 – 18 years

The inspection took place on 14 May 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good

#### Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do.
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

The quality of teaching and learning is good. A well organised learning programme ensures children have a wide range of learning experiences. Effectively planned and well prepared activities help children to explore resources and develop new skills. Staff are confident in their teaching and successfully encourage children's development over all six learning areas.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

- Develop the scope of key working within the setting to further support individual children's

#### **4.14 Happitots**

2 Rutland Road, Hove, BN3 5FF

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 26

Type of care: Sessional care

The inspection took place on 16 July 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good

Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff undertake regular observations of the children and understand how to use assessment records effectively to identify children's next steps in learning. They plan appropriate activities that are interesting and provide appropriate challenge. The playroom is a productive environment where children feel valued and positive about their own skills and abilities.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

The quality and standards of care:

- Improve the systems for recording the full name of both staff and children in the daily attendance register and medication records

The quality of nursery education:

- Increase children's opportunities to develop pre-writing skills

#### **4.15 Little Angels**

18 Whitehorn Drive, Brighton, BN1 5LH

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 45

Type of care: Full day care

The inspection took place on 12 June 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are satisfactory

Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do.
- helping children make a positive contribution

Provision was judged satisfactory for:

- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- organization

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is satisfactory. The manager completes all planning for the Foundation Stage, which is clear and promotes children's next stage of learning. Clear records of achievement are maintained, updated regularly and shared with parents. However some staff have a limited understanding of the Foundation Stage and are not encouraged to play an active role in observing funded children or planning for their next stage of learning.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

The quality and standards of care:

- Develop hygiene practices with children's drinking cups to minimise the risk of cross – infection
- Continue to develop systems to ensure the outdoor play area is safe for children to use at all times and that rugs do not pose a tripping hazard within the nursery
- Develop group times to ensure that they meet the individual needs of the children

The quality of nursery education:

- Develop the managerial role to ensure that staff are clear on their roles and responsibilities in their everyday activities and understand how to meet children's individual needs
- Develop the staff's understanding of the Foundation Stage so they are able to understand children's next stage of learning and extend and adapt activities to meet children's individual needs

#### **4.16 Meadowview**

Community Centre, Meadowview, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 4NF

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 16

Type of setting: Sessional care (children aged from two to under five years)

The inspection took place on 26 March 2008.

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good

Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good

The quality of teaching and learning is good. A well-organised learning programme ensures children have a good range of experiences to support their learning. The setting's nursery education is efficiently planned.

What must be done to secure future improvement? (Nursery Education)

- Widen the range of learning themes within the nursery education planning.

#### **4.17 NurseryTyme**

120 Stanford Avenue, Brighton, BN1 6FE

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 54

Type of care: Full day care

The inspection took place on 21 July 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory

- The quality and standards of the nursery education are satisfactory

#### Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged satisfactory for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do.
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

#### Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is satisfactory. Staff have a sound understanding of the Foundation Stage and support children's progress through the stepping stones. Staff have a calm and sensitive approach and happily follow children's interests. They plan and provide an interesting range of meaningful activities and experiences which interest children and cover the six areas of learning. Observations identify children's stage of learning so that the information can be used effectively to plan for children's next steps.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

The quality and standards of care:

- Improve routines, procedures and provide suitable resources to ensure good standards of hygiene are in place to minimise the spread of infection.
- Ensure babies feeding takes place in accordance with their individual needs
- Ensure the organisation of mealtimes meets the needs of all children
- Deploy staff effectively to ensure the safety, welfare and development of children

The quality of nursery education:

- Continue to develop the systems in place for, curriculum planning, children's observation, and individual records of assessments and use this information to plan the next steps in children's learning

#### **4.18 Playcare Nursery**

6 Windlesham Road, Brighton, BN1 3AG

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 90

Type of care: Full Day Care

The inspection took place on 18 June 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good



## Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged satisfactory for:

- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do
- organisation
- helping children make a positive contribution

## Nursery Education

The quality of the teaching and learning is good.

A worthwhile range of relevant activities related to their needs motivates the children. They access a wide range of well chosen resources, which support their progress in all areas of learning. Children flourish as the balance between adult and child-led activities allows them to learn at their own pace.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

The quality and standards of care:

- continue to develop the “free-flow” system to incorporate outdoor play more effectively

The quality of nursery education:

- continue to develop the use of assessment records to help inform planning for the next stage in learning

### **4.19 See Saw Pre-School**

St. Phillip’s Church Hall, 71 New Church Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 4BB

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 46

Type of setting: Sessional care (children aged 2 – under five years)

The inspection took place on 26 March 2008.

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good

## Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

Provision was judged outstanding for:

- helping children to be healthy

#### Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good.

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff plan a good range of practical activities that interest the children. Plans ensure that all children are suitably challenged and supported. Good observations identify children's stage of learning so that staff can plan the next steps for each child.

What must be done to secure future improvement? (Nursery Education)

- Ensure mark-making resources are in a suitable condition to encourage children to use them.

#### **4.20 Southern Cross Pre-School**

103 Trafalgar Road, Portslade, Brighton, East Sussex, BN41 1GU

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 41

Type of setting: Sessional care (2 – under 5)

The inspection took place on 18 March 2008.

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good

#### Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation.

#### Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good.

Staff demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding both of how children develop and of the Foundation Stage curriculum in helping children progress towards the early learning goals. The topics and activities provide children

with good opportunities to be challenged and make good progress in their learning, in a fun and stimulating way.

What must be done to secure future improvement? (Nursery Education)

- Review the provision of art and craft activities to ensure that they are more child-directed.
- Continue to develop the systems for planning and assessment to ensure the curriculum is representative of children's needs, interests and likes and clear evaluation is carried out of activities.

#### **4.21 St. Aubyns School**

76 High Street, Rottingdean, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 7JN

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 140

Type of care: Independent school for children aged 3 – 13 years

The inspection took place on 6 June 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the nursery education are outstanding

Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged outstanding for:

- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do.
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

Nursery Education

The teaching and learning is outstanding. Children are successfully guided to enjoy their learning and take part in a highly effective and extremely well planned learning programme. Staff have a confident and robust knowledge of all six learning areas and provide an excellent range of challenging play and learning activities.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

- No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of nursery education are outstanding.

#### **4.22 St. Peter's Church Playgroup**

Hangleton Road, West Blatchington, Hove, BN3 7LQ

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 37

Type of setting: Sessional care (children aged from two to under five years)

The inspection took place on 18 March 2008.

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are outstanding

Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding

The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding. Children make excellent progress towards the early learning goals as the activities and experiences on offer cover the areas of learning on a daily basis. Staff complete observations of children regularly directly into the parent contact books, helping to ensure parents are kept fully up to date with how their children are progressing and can extend learning at home. Activities and experiences are differentiated accordingly to ensure children gain the most from them.

What must be done to secure future improvement? (Nursery Education)

- No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of nursery education are outstanding.

#### **4.23 The Playstation**

Next to Matthias Church, Ditchling Road, Brighton, BN1 6JL

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 36

Type of care: Full day care

The inspection took place on 29 May 2008

The judgement was as follows:

- The quality and standards of the care are good
- The quality and standards of the nursery education are good

Effectiveness of the Provision

Provision was judged good for:

- helping children to be healthy
- protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe
- helping children make a positive contribution
- organisation

Provision was judged outstanding for:

- helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

### Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding. A highly organised and stimulating learning programme provides children with an excellent range of challenging activities. Children successfully develop their learning as they explore a rich and exciting range of play and learning themes that encourage communication, creativity and knowledge of the world. The setting is highly successful in ensuring all children make progress and enjoy their learning.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

The quality and standards of care:

- Continue to develop the organisation of resources in the outdoor area.

The quality of nursery education:

- Review how children's records of achievement are kept and accessed.

## 4. CONSULTATION

4.1 This document is a summary of Ofsted reports and does not require further consultation.

## 5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

### Financial Implications:

5.1 Schools are funded via a formula and any resource implications from the Ofsted inspections would have to be met from their formula allocation.

We are working with schools in producing three year budget plans, to ensure they can live within their budget in the long term. Some of the schools will have to make difficult decisions in the short to medium term in order to achieve their educational targets as well as living within their budgets.

Support may be available from LA funds to aid the action plan of any school, however any support given will be from within existing budgets.

For those Early Years settings any implications would have to be met from their own resources, although they may well take advice from the council's Early Years team.

Finance Officer consulted: Andy Moore, Schools Principal Accountant, CYPT  
Finance

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2008

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

*Lawyer consulted: Serena Kynasten, Lawyer, CYPT*

*Date: 02 September 2008*

Equalities Implications:

5.3 Support to ensure all schools are good will produce equality for all young people.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 Sustaining school improvement requires continued employment of appropriate advisers to support and challenge schools.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 Effective schools engage young people in their communities and provide a moral framework.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 No formal risk assessment has been made.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 The quality of education provision is a major indicator in the overall assessment of corporate performance.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices**

None

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

None

### **Background Documents**

1. *Full inspection reports available from Overview and Scrutiny Support Officers*
2. *Range of judgements about school performance*

