



Elan Nursery **High quality child care**

The Elan Nursery achieves outstanding Ofsted report

A Popular nursery has become the first in Haywards Heath to achieve outstanding scores in every category under new inspection criteria.

Elan Nursery in Perrymount Road won top marks in all 14 sections in its Ofsted report following a recent unannounced visit by inspectors.

The report described the nursery as having an “inspirational culture of continuous improvement” and praised staff for their excellent work.

It said: “Overall the quality of provision is outstanding. Children flourish because of the consistently high standards and make exceptional progress in all areas of their development.”

Nursery owner Clare Coward said: “We were really thrilled at the end of a long inspection day to be told that we had achieved an ‘outstanding’ status as this is the best you can get.

“We were even more pleased to see that of the 14 categories that Ofsted assess we had been awarded ‘outstanding’ for all of them.

“I believe we are the only nursery in Haywards Heath to be given this many ‘outstanding’ awards.”

The nursery, which was set up in 2005, has 104 under-fives on its books and employs 24 members of staff.

The Ofsted inspectors concluded that the nursery excelled in its overall effectiveness, leadership and management, as well as in its quality and standards of service.

In particular, they highlighted the nursery’s efforts to ensure children were safe, healthy and happy, while helping them to learn and develop.

It said: “Children are eager to take part in a wide range of interesting activities indoors and out. Staff talk to children about what they do and encourage them to express their own ideas.

“Children develop exceptionally clear, articulate speech because of the excellent models provided by all the staff.”

The report also praised Elan for ensuring children with learning difficulties and disabilities received the care and support they need.

Manager Tanya Richards said: “This is a tremendous achievement and a tribute to the hard work of the team.”

Ms Coward added: “We have to continue to work hard now to maintain this exceptionally high standard. But for now we’re planning a night out for all the staff to let our hair down and celebrate.”

NB: The inspection was carried out on August 14, 2009. The full report is available online at www.ofsted.gov.uk. Elan Nursery’s URN is EY305006.