

Grove Hill Playgroup

Grove Hill Resource Centre, Bishopton Road, MIDDLESBROUGH, Cleveland, TS4 2RP



Inspection date

10 February 2015

Previous inspection date

28 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching throughout the playgroup is good. Staff ensure all children, including those who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs, make good progress in their learning.
- Staff establish warm, nurturing relationships which give children the security they need to develop confidence and emotional stability.
- Children's health and welfare is promoted well. High standards of cleanliness and good hygiene routines are maintained throughout the playgroup and all staff are first aid trained.
- Children are effectively safeguarded. Staff have a good understanding of child protection, implement stringent safety procedures and keep the required records and documentation.
- Secure partnerships are in place with parents, external agencies and other early years settings. These make a strong contribution to meeting children's individual needs.
- The staff team are committed to developing the provision. They obtain the views of both parents and children to evaluate the service offered so they can identify areas for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not maximise opportunities for children to access the outdoor environment in order to build on the already good learning taking place indoors.
- There are further opportunities to strengthen staff performance management, for example, through the use of peer observations to enable staff to share, reflect and build on each other's practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich the learning environment to provide even better opportunities for children to continue their learning outdoors, for example, by enabling them to move freely between this area and the indoors
- strengthen the performance management of staff, for example, through the use of peer observations so staff are encouraged to review, reflect and suggest ways to further enhance each other's practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the playroom and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff provide a wide range of activities and learning opportunities to ensure children have the knowledge and skills to be ready for school. Children benefit from playing with good quality, well-chosen resources. The outdoor area is equally well resourced and can be accessed directly from the playroom. However, staff do not take advantage of this by enabling children to move freely between the indoors and outdoors to give them additional play opportunities. Robust systems are in place for observation, assessment and planning. The manager and the child's key person monitor activities and children's progress closely. They ensure the next steps for children's learning are identified and used to inform planning. This ensures activities challenge children according to their stage of development and help them make good progress. Staff interact and engage well with children to build their language development and their self-confidence. They encourage conversations and ask them questions and appreciate their efforts when they show their understanding of new words and phrases. Children particularly enjoy using the inviting book area. They confidently and enthusiastically re-tell their favourite stories and handle the books with care and attention. Staff build on children's interests. For example, they support children in producing artwork about one their favourite stories. This is displayed in the community library where children are frequent visitors.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children's emotional well-being is supported effectively. Staff are caring and nurturing and children have secure attachments to them. Children separate confidently from parents. They enjoy their time so much at the playgroup they are often reluctant to go home at the end of the session. Staff teach children about the importance of healthy eating and good hygiene routines, such as brushing their teeth after eating. They provide a range of equipment in the indoor and outdoor area to promote their physical development. Children's behaviour is managed sensitively and there is a happy, friendly atmosphere in the playgroup. Staff work with healthcare professionals to ensure that children with special educational needs are supported in this area of learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The management team and staff have a clear understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They meet these to ensure children are kept safe and their welfare is promoted. The manager provides good supervision for all staff. She works alongside the staff team, supporting them in delivering the learning and development requirements, and monitoring their practice. However, she has not explored the use of peer observations as an additional means of reviewing and enhancing each other's practice. Staff are supported to undertake training and professional development opportunities, such as training to support children with special educational needs and gaining higher level childcare qualifications. This has a positive impact on children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	508458
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	974945
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	43
Name of provider	Grove Hill Youth and Community Management Committee
Date of previous inspection	28 April 2014
Telephone number	01642 816384

Grove Hill Playgroup was registered in 1992. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 11.45am and 12.30pm until 2.45pm with the exception of Friday, when it only operates in the morning. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

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