

# Old Town Playgroup

9 Montague Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, TW3 1JY



## Inspection date

26 February 2015

Previous inspection date

1 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff provide a wide range of stimulating activities which cover all areas of learning effectively.
- Staff work well with parents and involve them in their children's learning. Staff talk to parents daily to exchange information on children's progress and well-being. This helps to promote continuity in children's care and learning.
- Staff manage children's behaviour effectively by using praise to encourage children to behave in positive ways.
- Staff work well with other professionals. They liaise with local schools to support children when they move on to school. The management team evaluates all areas of the playgroup practice to form key goals for improvement. For instance, the manager plans to enhance planning to further promote the outcomes for children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not maximised outdoor opportunities to help children to learn about the world around them.
- Staff have not fully developed early writing opportunities in play situations.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills in play situations
- develop the outdoor area further to enhance children's understanding of the world.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children, in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and held a discussion with management.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children and took their views into consideration.

## Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

## Inspection findings

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

Children engage highly with activities because staff link tasks to children's interests well. Staff assess children regularly and make good use of this information to plan suitably challenging activities. As a result, children make good progress. Staff support children's early literacy skills by providing opportunities for children to recognise their names on cards when they arrive. Staff extend children's learning well. For instance, children pretend to be doctors and nurses in role play and learn about the world around them. Staff follow this up by reading a story about a doctor and teach children new words, such as 'stethoscope' and 'thermometer'. However, staff do not always take full advantage of the opportunity to promote children's early writing skills in play situations. Staff use the outdoor area to provide a good range of physical challenges for children, although staff have not fully developed outdoor activities to support children's understanding of the world, for example, through learning about and observing insects. Staff teach children to count securely by using a giant floor abacus. Children learn good skills for later use in school.

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

Staff get to know children's interests, likes and dislikes when they first arrive, which helps them to settle well. They build warm, strong relationships with children. Staff support children's understanding of events that happen during the day by providing picture displays of the daily routine. This helps children to feel secure. Staff encourage children's independence and build their confidence by asking them to help prepare healthy fruit snacks and pour their own drinks. Staff teach children good personal care routines. They teach children how to behave in safe ways. For example, they carry out regular fire drills so that children know how to respond in an emergency.

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

The management team places high priority on children's safety. The qualified team has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The manager carries out background checks on staff to help ensure suitability for their roles. Staff know the procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child's welfare, which helps to keep children safe. The manager uses regular supervision and appraisals to identify staff training needs. For instance, staff attended a course on behaviour management, which led to more effective ways of managing children's behaviour. The manager has good insight into the quality of staff practice because she works in the group room. This enables her to observe staff directly. She regularly reviews planning and children's assessments to check for consistency in quality.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	116260
<b>Local authority</b>	Hounslow
<b>Inspection number</b>	842704
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	40
<b>Name of provider</b>	Old Town Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 July 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	07906 927787

Old Town Playgroup registered in 1992 and is managed by a voluntary management committee. It operates from one room in a community association building in Hounslow, in the London Borough of Hounslow. The playgroup operates during school term times each weekday from 8.55am to 11.55am, with afternoon sessions available from 12.35pm to 15.35pm every weekday except Tuesdays. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years. The playgroup employs a team of six staff, including the manager, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes four staff who hold qualifications at level 3, and two staff members who hold qualifications at level 2.

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