

# Lostock Playgroup

Lostock Parish Centre, Tempest Road, Lostock, BOLTON, BL6 4EL



## Inspection date

5 March 2015

Previous inspection date

23 November 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children are safe in the setting. This is because the manager and staff understand their responsibility to safeguard and protect the children.
- Children's communication and language skills are well promoted by staff, in order to further their thinking and extend their learning.
- The management has established an effective key-person system to support children's emotional well-being.
- Staff effectively meet the needs of the children as they have a good understanding of their starting points.
- Staff regularly assess children's progress, in order to plan and provide a variety of good activities and opportunities.
- The manager monitors the educational programmes and children's progress well, ensuring a broad range of activities are planned to match their needs.
- Leadership and management are good. The manager and staff team have identified key areas for development and are committed to taking into account the views of children and their families to promote ongoing self-evaluation.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The resources and opportunities available to the children outside, do not always stimulate, challenge and interest them as well as those indoors.
- Professional development is not yet focused on sharing best practice amongst the staff, so that teaching is raised to an outstanding level, in order to maximise children's attainment.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the provision for outdoor play, so that children are able to continue to build on their interests and develop their play more fully
- develop further the monitoring arrangements of staff by embedding the system for sharing best practice, for example, peer observations, to raise teaching to an even higher level.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main play area and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of staff suitability, policies, procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

### Inspector

Denise Farrington

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Staff understand how to teach and extend the children's learning and development. As a result, all children make good progress. Staff plan engaging activities using their knowledge of children's interests and awareness of the next steps in their development. Consequently, children are enthusiastic about their learning. Children's progress is accurately assessed and any gaps in their learning is quickly identified, so that additional support may be implemented. Staff are skilled in nurturing and supporting younger children. Routines and activities, such as letters and sounds, ensure that older children are prepared well for school. Staff allow children time to develop their own ideas but are always nearby to support their learning. For example, children of all ages enjoy investigating how to get the dinosaurs out of the ice cubes. However, opportunities outdoors have not yet been fully maximised to provide children with the same level of stimulating and challenging activities, which they enjoy indoors.

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

Children are well cared for and safe as staff have a good knowledge of child protection and protect their welfare. Parents are very happy with the care given to their child. Staff support children to feel secure and comfortable with routines and to form close relationships with their key person. As a result, children confidently explore the environment, investigating and testing out their ideas. Staff support the children to manage their own risks effectively, for example, when descending the exterior staircase for outdoor play, staff remind children of what they need to do to stay safe. There are good hygiene and self-care practices in place. Children are encouraged to be independent in their self-care, which builds their confidence and self-esteem.

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

The manager effectively monitors and evaluates the educational programmes provided. The manager carries out regular staff supervision and observations on the quality of teaching, which supports them in their role. All staff are given good support and encouragement to develop their professional knowledge through training. However, opportunities for staff to observe and learn from each other, in order to develop already good practice, have yet to be fully explored. Recruitment procedures are robust and all staff undergo appropriate checks to ensure they are suitable to work with children. New staff benefit from a full induction and additional support, which ensures they are quickly aware of routines, policies and procedures. Parents benefit from regular opportunities to meet with staff to discuss their child's progress and ways to support their learning at home. The manager has developed effective self-evaluation procedures.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY415290
<b>Local authority</b>	Bolton
<b>Inspection number</b>	851597
<b>Type of provision</b>	
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	46
<b>Name of provider</b>	Suzanne Janet Hogan
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	23 November 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	07969488712

Lostock Playgroup was registered in 2010. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, one at a level 2 and two with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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