

# Hundred Acre Pre-School Playgroup

Goodwood Drive, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B74 2JG



## Inspection date

16 March 2015

Previous inspection date

15 October 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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

- The manager leads a well-qualified staff team who work extremely well together. All staff are passionate about providing children with high quality experiences, in order to give them the best start and prepare them well for the next stage in their learning.
- The key person system is strong and relationships between staff, children and parents are excellent. Consequently, children are emotionally secure. Staff work well with parents to ensure every child is valued and included in all aspects of the pre-school.
- The pre-school's special educational needs coordinator is extremely knowledgeable, experienced and passionate in her role. This means children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are exceptionally well supported within the setting.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff have excellent interactions with children. They focus sharply on developing children's speaking and listening skills, in order to support them to make good progress across all areas of learning.
- Children are protected from harm because all staff place a strong focus on safeguarding and are fully aware of their responsibilities should any concerns arise. Procedures for collecting children are robust, and risks are effectively managed to keep children safe.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use information gathered from their assessments of children's progress to plan activities that effectively challenge the most able children, to ensure that they achieve the highest possible levels.
- There are fewer opportunities for children to explore and develop their imaginative and creative thinking through open-ended play, using recycled, natural and household materials.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- use assessment more precisely, so that the more able children build on what they already know and can do and are stretched and challenged to make more rapid progress
- enhance children's creative and critical thinking skills further through offering more opportunities for children to use natural and open-ended resources in their play, and encourage them to think of different ways to use them.

### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector had a tour of the pre-school with the manager.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and the pre-school's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documentation.

### **Inspector**

Emma Daly

## Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn and provide a wealth of opportunities across all areas of learning. Staff recognise when children are underachieving and provide targeted support to quickly close gaps in their learning. This means all children are successfully supported to make good progress. However, activities for the more able children do not always provide them with enough challenge. This is because some staff do not make best use of the information they have about what children have already learned and can do, in order to support them to make rapid progress. Children have plenty of opportunities to explore, investigate and take the lead in their play. Staff use good questioning to extend their learning further. Children enjoy recreating experiences as they play in the role-play area and they excitedly join in with stories and rhymes. However, children have fewer opportunities to develop their own ideas and use their creative and imagination skills. This is because resources that children can use in a variety of ways, such as natural and recycled materials, are not always accessible. Staff promote children's literacy and mathematical skills throughout routines and activities.

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

Children display high levels of confidence and self-motivation within the pre-school. This is because they build secure attachments with all staff, and the key person ensures children's learning is tailored to meet their individual needs. Parents are highly involved in their children's learning because there is a consistent approach to sharing information about children's interests and the progress they are making. Children's health is assured because they follow good hygiene routines and enjoy a selection of healthy snacks. They have daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise, and benefit from a well-resourced outdoor area which supports all areas of their learning. Inclusion is given a high priority. This means children learn to be accepting of each other's similarities and differences, and this is excellently role modelled by staff. Children play well together and their behaviour is good because staff get down to their level and calmly set their expectations out, using sign language, pictures and symbols to aid children's understanding.

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

The manager has a good understanding of the legal requirements. All documentation is in place to ensure the effective management of the setting. The manager monitors the quality of the education programmes so that staff continually provide high quality experiences for all children. All staff are involved in self-evaluation. They have a shared vision for the future and are working hard to continually raise standards. The manager and deputy offer daily support to other staff. They model best practice and share their expertise to develop staff's practice further. All staff receive supervisions to support their professional development, and training needs are identified. Effective partnership working with parents, other settings and other professionals enables the staff to share information, evaluate practice and continue to enhance provision to support every child's needs.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	254454
<b>Local authority</b>	Walsall
<b>Inspection number</b>	871545
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	22
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	40
<b>Name of provider</b>	Hundred Acre Pre-School Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 October 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	07906 971876

Hundred Acre Pre-School Playgroup was registered in 1969. It is situated in purpose-built premises in Walsall, and is managed by a charity committee. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, six hold level 3 and one holds level 2. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9.30am until 2.30pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 9.30am until 12.30pm on a Tuesday and Thursday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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