

Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup



Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup, 37 Burgess Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9ND

Inspection date	24 March 2015
Previous inspection date	27 September 2011

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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are well cared for and treated with courtesy and respect. They are highly motivated, confident and enthusiastic and enjoy coming to the playgroup.
- Staff are very good at using observation and assessment to identify children's progress and to identify what needs to be done to support their continuing learning and development.
- Children are particularly well supported in developing physical, personal, social and emotional skills, as well as communication skills.
- Staff have high expectations of the children and offer positive feedback and praise as they are learning. This means that the children are excited and motivated to try new things.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent and ensure that all learning and development opportunities are used to best effect and children make very good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use existing resources for technology in the most effective way to develop the children's skills and knowledge. This means that children are not given consistent opportunities to recognise, select and use technology for particular purposes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of existing information and communication technology resources in order to further develop children's skills in using technology and maximise opportunities for children to select and use technology for a range of purposes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup leader.
- The inspector sampled policies and procedures and saw evidence of the qualifications and suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out an interview with the playgroup leader.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.

Inspector
Gill Coathup

Inspection findings

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

Children and staff have very good relationships, and as a result, children thrive. Staff take every opportunity to use effective questioning to extend children's thinking, knowledge, understanding and skills. This contributes to all children progressing particularly well across the areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff are very good at using observation and assessment to identify children's interests. An interest in pirates stimulates children's role play, which leads to children making treasure maps together and developing and extending language. For example, children describe features they can put on the map, such as, treasure, mountains and sea. Children are particularly well supported in developing personal and social and emotional skills. For example, they are excellent at making decisions about their own behaviour and resolving difficulties independently. They use a timer to help them share a resource fairly. This means that children are particularly well prepared for school, and develop a good range of skills to support their future learning. Children do not always have consistent access to technology, and this does not help to enhance their knowledge and skills in this aspect of learning.

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

Staff have high expectations of children and offer positive feedback and praise as children are learning. This means that the children are excited and motivated to try new things. The key-person system is extremely well developed, and the key person know the children and parents extremely well. Staff and parents work together to ensure the best possible care and education for children. Partnerships with parents are extremely effective and consequently, all children's needs are met. The playgroup leader and staff have a particularly good understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. The playgroup premises are secure. Risk assessments are carried out to recognise hazards and steps are taken to minimise risk. Safe working practices are assured because all policies are implemented and so children's health, safety and well-being are protected.

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

The playgroup is very well led and managed by the playgroup leader, trustees and deputy. The leader and staff have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The staff, leader and trustees monitor safeguarding practices, so that all children are kept safe. The leader and staff work well with the school and other services to make sure that all children's needs are catered for; including, children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language. Staff are highly motivated and extremely conscientious. They are well qualified and work particularly effectively together as a team; this means that the children benefit from their wide range of skills and interests. The monitoring of the quality of teaching and learning, staff supervision and regular self-evaluation, are very good. As a consequence, improvement is high on the agenda and this contributes to high quality teaching and learning for the children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221775
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	865966
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	27 September 2011
Telephone number	07808 357 729

Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup was registered in August 1992. The playgroup is housed in a portacabin with an outdoor fenced area. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3 or 4. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 11.30am and 12 noon until 3pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, sessions run from 9am until 12 noon and there is a lunch club from 12 noon until 1pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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