

# Riverside Playgroup

Cordeaux School, North Holme Road, LOUTH, Lincolnshire, LN11 0HG



## Inspection date

26 March 2015

## Previous inspection date

11 October 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            |                         | Outstanding | 1        |
| 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

- Excellent thought is given to extending play opportunities to include mark making and writing skills. Children use chalks to draw and develop a two-dimensional roadway and town on the garden floor. Their imaginations enable them to add new features and support their continued play.
- The staff engage even the youngest of children in stories through the effective use of puppets. The children use them to retell and recall what has happened and act out what happens next. Their enjoyment supports the development of their literacy and communication skills.
- Children's welfare is safeguarded by staff who are knowledgeable about child protection issues and are confident about how to correctly report any concerns.
- Parents spoken to at inspection are delighted with the progress their children make and praise the hard working staff. They feel involved and an important part of their children's learning as the staff work in partnership with them.
- The manager is skilled at leading the staff team. She has earned their respect with her knowledge and the way she role models good practice for them. She constantly monitors the quality of the teaching and values the importance of continual professional development for staff.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff have already identified that many of the games the children access on the computer are too difficult, they have not yet resolved the issue to fully support children's continued enjoyment and learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's learning about technology, for example, by providing a range of computer games and activities that enable them to be challenged but that also have achievable goals.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main playroom and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with children, the setting's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and interacted with children throughout the inspection.

## Inspector

Sharon Waterfall

## Inspection findings

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

The children are making good progress due to the highly skilled staff, who are adaptive and able to enhance children's play. They listen and take note, using the information to plan and provide activities and resources that really interest the children. For example, children with an interest in chicks are shown a video of them hatching out. The children are asked questions about what they see and are encouraged to describe what the chicks look like. Their language skills are developed well through this activity, as the children are keen to talk. Staff develop it further and ask the children to draw the chicks to practise their pencil grip and mark-making skills. The computer is used well for various learning objectives, however, many of the games are too difficult for the children, leaving them frustrated. The children are independent learners and are confident to access resources themselves to develop their play. For example, they use the shaving foam to enhance their play with cars, making tracks and patterns in the foam with the wheels. Their growing confidence and independence mean that children are well prepared for their move on to their next learning environment, such as nursery or school.

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

The children's safety and welfare are paramount to the warm, caring and conscientious staff team. Each child has two key persons who work extremely well together to ensure their individual needs are met. Consequently, children's emotional development is fostered and they make secure attachments. The environment and session structure are organised extremely well to enable the children to lead many aspects of their own play. They are confident decision makers and their independence is highly encouraged, particularly within self-care skills. For example, there is a 'helper of the day' who has small responsibilities throughout the session. Children also pour their own drinks and prepare their own healthy and nutritious snacks. Their understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles is enhanced through discussions about which foods are good for you. They engage in a wide range of stimulating outdoor play opportunities on a daily basis.

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

The manager leads a strong and committed staff team. They work well together to provide a consistent ethos and good quality educational programme for the children. Staff are well qualified and attend ongoing training, which has a very positive impact on children's educational development. Robust recruitment procedures, regular supervisions and continual personal development ensure that suitable and highly skilled staff care for the children. The manager keeps up to date with current childcare initiatives, changing and adapting policies and procedures to support children's welfare. Self-evaluation is embedded in practice, with new ideas and areas for improvements being identified. Children's progress is constantly monitored, meaning that any gaps are quickly identified and addressed. Effective partnership working with parents and other agencies ensures children's needs are thoroughly met.

## Setting details

|                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | EY427422                              |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Lincolnshire                          |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 852782                                |
| <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>      | 24                                    |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 49                                    |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Riverside Playgroup (Louth) Committee |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 11 October 2011                       |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 07948466184                           |

Riverside Playgroup was registered in 2011 in its current setting, although it has been running since 1980. It is committee run and is situated on the site of Cordeaux School in Louth. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including three with foundation degrees. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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