

Horfield Methodist Playgroup

Churchways Avenue, Horfield, Bristol, Avon, BS7 8SN



Inspection date	16 April 2015
Previous inspection date	26 January 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

- Parental partnerships are very good which means that children benefit from continuity in their care between home and playgroup. Staff know children's requirements and meet their physical needs to a good standard. They safeguard children well.
- Staff use the main hall to its full potential to aid children's spontaneous play in all areas of learning. The environment provided by staff meets the children's learning needs well.
- Children are confident to explore and investigate a variety of resources and activities so they progress quickly. They gain useful skills for their eventual move to school.
- Staff use good observation and assessment methods to evaluate children's learning. Managers use effective methods to check that any gaps in learning are identified and addressed.
- The staff work well as a team and know how to evaluate the provision to make further improvements for the children's benefit.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always teach children how to manage their personal care routines as well as possible.
- Sometimes staff miss opportunities to encourage children's independence, especially at snack times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure staff have consistently high expectations of what children can achieve by teaching them to take on more personal responsibilities and develop self-help skills before, during and after mealtimes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching, indoors and outdoors, and its impact on children's learning.
- The Inspector examined a range of documentation and records and discussed these with the managers.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection and considered their views.
- The inspector and managers completed a joint observation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers.

Inspector

Jean Essom

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is good. Staff use questions and language well to develop the children's thinking and problem solving. The children confidently choose their play activities from a well-resourced environment that is inviting and welcoming. Parents regularly spend time with the children in playgroup giving them a good understanding of how their children learn, what they do and their progress. Children enjoy inviting parents to share their skills such as playing the piano or baking. This arrangement helps children enjoy a variety of interesting learning experiences. Staff use routine activities well to develop essential skills in practical, purposeful ways. For example, children count how many of their friends are present at the start of the day. Staff use children's favourite books to plan exciting speciality days. For example, a book about a caterpillar helps children to understand healthy eating and extends their language through introducing new words.

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

The staff keep the children safe but allow children to learn how to take small risks so that they develop their physical skills well. They have free access to an outside area but, as this is small, staff have given good consideration to using appropriate areas of the large hall for more physical opportunities, such as using a climbing frame. Children are encouraged to be independent. They pour their drinks but staff miss opportunities to extend such personal skills further, such as by teaching them to help prepare food. Children learn how to be healthy through discussion about the effects of exercise, healthy foods and hand washing after using the toilet. The children enjoy using a teddy bear to remind them of the social rules of listening to each other and of taking turns. They respond well and have good relationships with staff.

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

The staff team works closely together to implement requirements well. A highly effective committee and parent rota operates to support the staff team. Parents are eager to be involved in children's learning. The staff make further improvements to the provision by forging partnerships with other settings in the area to share good practice and resources, which benefits the children. They regularly undertake training, although no staff member is qualified above level 3. Training has a positive effect on their teaching and the children's learning. For instance, they use dance and movement to increase writing skills and children make good progress in this area as a result. Staff use good evaluation strategies to judge the impact of their training against the children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106984
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	845913
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	Horfield Methodist Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2011
Telephone number	07903 350214

Horfield Methodist Playgroup started in 1967 and registered with Ofsted in 2001. It is located in Horfield, in the BS7 postcode area of Bristol. The playgroup is open during school terms on each weekday morning, from 9am until 12 noon. The playgroup committee is funded to provide some free early education to children aged three and four years. Three staff work with the children and have appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3.

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