

Horsley Playgroup

Horsley Village Hall, Priory Fields, Horsley, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL6 0PT



Inspection date

27 April 2015

Previous inspection date

9 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff use skilful high-quality teaching methods to enable all children to make rapid progress in their learning and development. Precise and accurate assessment enables staff to plan targeted and focused learning opportunities.
- Staff provide children with an exceptionally safe and well-resourced play environment. Staff are highly vigilant and immediately identify and minimise potential risks. Managers and staff have a very secure knowledge and understanding of their legal responsibilities and provide exceptional safeguarding arrangements.
- Staff provide children with excellent opportunities to develop their physical development both indoors and outside, which contribute towards children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy taking age-appropriate risks in their play.
- The leadership and management of the playgroup is outstanding. The manager is dedicated to supporting staff to provide children with exceptionally high-quality learning opportunities.
- The staff have developed excellent partnerships with parents, other agencies and early years settings, which contribute highly to meeting children's needs.
- Children demonstrate they thoroughly enjoy their learning and play experiences. They show excellent levels of independence and confidence. This helps to prepare children well for the next stage in learning, such as school.
- Staff know children exceptionally well. They build strong and nurturing relationships with them, which promote children's physical and emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide additional opportunities to promote children's awareness of the printed word in the outdoor environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children during activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environments, and the toys and resources available.
- The inspector invited the manager to carry out a joint observation.
- The inspector looked at the children's assessment records and staff's planning documentation, and discussed these with the staff.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Gina Chamberlain

Inspection findings

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

Staff have an excellent understanding of how to promote children's learning and development through effective interactions and skilful questioning techniques. They embrace opportunities to extend children's learning by knowing the children well and listening to their interests. For example, staff create a pirate ship with the use of climbing equipment and large boxes. Children develop their imagination and social skills as they join together in small groups to bury treasure. Staff promote children's mark making skills by suggesting they draw a map to help to find the buried treasure. Staff support children's developing language and communication skills effectively with the use of daily circle time and group activities. Staff provide children with excellent opportunities to develop their awareness of the printed word with the use of images and labels indoors. However, this is less evident in the outdoor environment. Staff provide children with a wide range of media and materials, which enables them to be creative and to experiment with colours and textures. Children demonstrate their developing independence as they practise putting on their own painting aprons and then return them back to the rack after use.

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

Children demonstrate they are happy and settle quickly at the playgroup. They form strong bonds with the caring and friendly staff members, who are always close by to provide any support children may need. Children develop good relationships with their friends due to the excellent teaching methods used by staff. For example, children are encouraged to settle minor disagreements between one another through discussion. Children display extremely high levels of self-confidence and motivation. They independently explore the indoor and outdoor areas, and seek to involve friends and staff members in their play. Staff offer hugs and reassurance to comfort children who are upset and ensure that children's emotional well-being is a high priority.

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

The manager and staff team have an outstanding knowledge of the requirements of the early years foundation stage. They implement high quality educational programmes and are highly effective in monitoring the progress of the children in their care. The manager successfully identifies staff training needs to benefit children, such as specific training to support children's language and communication skills. She implements effective self-evaluation procedures that are both accurate and thorough. These include the views of children, parents, committee members and staff, to enable the management to develop a focused improvement plan to bring about relevant improvements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101482
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	839104
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Horsley Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2011
Telephone number	07929 974982

Horsley Playgroup registered in 1993. It operates from Horsley Village Hall situated in the rural village of Horsley, Gloucestershire. The playgroup is open on Monday between 9.30am and 3.15pm, Tuesday between 12.15pm and 3.15pm and Wednesday between 9.00am and 3.15pm, during school term times only. The playgroup employs seven members of staff. Of these, one has Early Years Professional Status and one has Qualified Teacher Status. Two members of staff hold a childcare qualification at Level 3 and two have a qualification at Level 2. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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