

Church Hall Playgroup

Church Street, Stoney Stanton, Leicester, Leicestershire, LE9 4DA



Inspection date

30 April 2015

Previous inspection date

28 November 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

- Teaching is excellent. Staff have high aspirations for all children and planning takes account of their interests, future learning needs and information gathered from parents. Children enter a vibrant, stimulating environment and settle quickly into a wide variety of high-quality learning opportunities.
- Staff are well qualified and have an excellent knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They successfully implement their knowledge to ensure all possible opportunities for children to maximise their learning are provided.
- Excellent bonds of attachments form between staff and children and all staff have an exceptional knowledge of their key children. As a result, children's needs are consistently met.
- The playgroup uses highly effective strategies to involve all parents, offering information that enables them to extend their child's learning at home. Staff work cohesively with other providers of early years education that share the care of children, so their learning is continually supported.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding issues and are fully conversant with procedures for monitoring and reporting concerns. They take highly effective steps to ensure all areas of the playgroup are safe and suitable. Children are actively involved, completing risk assessments both inside and outside.
- Children's emotional well-being is nurtured effectively as staff are skilled in supporting their transition to school. The wide-ranging activities and experiences within the playgroup enable children to develop the essential skills needed as they become confident, independent young people.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further the already excellent processes for monitoring staff's practice, for example, by using peer observations in spontaneous situations as well as during planned activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in both the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The inspector spent time with the manager of the provision and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all members of staff, their qualifications and the provider's processes for self-evaluation.
- The inspector reviewed documentation, including children's records, learning and development information, staff's records and a selection of policies and procedures.

Inspector

Tracey Boland

Inspection findings

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

Staff's exceptional understanding of how children learn and develop and their superb teaching methods ensure they continually make excellent progress. Children's personal, social and emotional skills flourish and they are active learners who are excited and eager to learn. Communication and language development is supported extremely well. Staff skilfully encourage children to share what they already know and they confidently identify letters and the words that begin with the same sound. Children develop an excellent understanding of mathematics. They weigh and measure ingredients when cooking and compare the quantity of different food eaten at playgroup each week. They then use the information to plot a graph that shows which was eaten the most and the least. Staff link this expertly to healthy eating and lifestyles. Children fully engage in imaginative play as they pretend to be fire officers, wearing the appropriate uniforms and using hoses to put out the fires. Staff incorporate their knowledge of mathematics further as children are asked to put out the fire at a specific number displayed in the garden.

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

Children form excellent relationships with staff. Exceptional arrangements that support children's emotional well-being include visiting them at home. Staff gather as much information as possible about each child and the visits support children greatly to settle into the playgroup. Children play an active role in identifying potential risks alongside staff within the playgroup, which they feel is essential for their own understanding of safety. Children have free access to the outdoor play area, registering that they are outdoors by displaying their photograph on the door to the garden. Play experiences extend their learning even further as they develop great physical agility by climbing, exploring and using various equipment. Staff are excellent role models, joining in with children's play without infringing on their learning, and encouraging them to share and take turns.

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

Leadership and management within the playgroup are exceptional. Highly effective arrangements for recruiting staff, induction and their professional development ensures that children and families receive an outstanding service. The manager and staff embrace self-evaluation. The views of children, parents and staff enables the service to be effectively monitored and enhanced. For example, the manager and staff have identified that there is great value to using peer observations in spontaneous situations to ensure practice is maintained at a high standard. Staff embrace training to enhance their own practice and strive to enhance this exceptional service. Recent training relating to physical development has broadened opportunities for children's physical skills and learning to be targeted. Partnerships with parents and other professionals supports children extremely well within playgroup and as they move onto school. Parents speak highly of the excellent service, learning opportunities provided and acknowledge that staff deliver an invaluable service.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY269502
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	872731
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Deborah Luckett
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2011
Telephone number	07949 889805

Church Hall Playgroup was registered in 1972. The playgroup employs six members of staff. Of these, one holds Qualified Teacher Status, one holds an early years qualification at level 5 and three at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday term time. Sessions are from 8.45am to 11.45am and 12.30pm to 3.30pm. The playgroup provides funded education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The playgroup provides care for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

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