

Abbey Road Playgroup

Abbey Park First & Nursery School, Abbey Road, PERSHORE, Worcestershire, WR10 1DF



Inspection date

12 May 2015

Previous inspection date

24 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 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

- Children have a wonderful time. The extremely capable, attentive manager and staff skilfully reassure children, and build on their confidence. Children relish the playgroup's inviting and highly stimulating resources, and surroundings. They eagerly join in the many rich, rewarding and often challenging experiences.
- The manager and staff are highly skilled, innovative teachers. They bring activities and stories alive for children, stimulating their imagination and enthusiasm. As part of their focus on a popular story, children eagerly make sandwiches and decorate cakes for snack time. They are thrilled when characters from this story join them at snack time.
- The manager and staff expertly tailor their planning and teaching to cater for each child's interests and abilities. They skilfully help children to be extremely confident, expressive and resourceful learners. Each child is helped to make outstanding progress in relation to their starting points.
- Children are fully safeguarded. The manager and staff are extremely knowledgeable about signs of abuse and child protection procedures. They are conscientious and uncompromising in their efforts to minimise risks of harm to children. Well-targeted early interventions and support for vulnerable families further strengthens this work.
- Excellent information sharing between the manager, staff and parents ensure a thorough, cohesive approach to assessing and meeting children's needs. Parents are fully informed about their children's progress. They really appreciate the staff's expert advice and support, regarding different aspects of their children's care, health, behaviour and development.
- The manager and staff have highly effective relationships with other agencies, the school and the children's centre. They skilfully work together, giving parents timely advice and support, helping them to access a range of local services.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's already excellent understanding of information and communication technology. For example, by offering them further imaginative opportunities to use information and communication technology to research and plan for their work, and to record what they have achieved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playgroup's indoor, and outside play areas and on the school playground. She carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She held meetings with the committee chairperson and playgroup manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and from their written feedback.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the playgroup's improvement plans.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup. She also looked at a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachel Wyatt

Inspection findings

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

The manager and staff fully understand how well children are progressing and what aspects of their learning to focus on next. This is the result of their extremely thorough assessments and tracking methods. They regularly talk to parents about their children's learning, and successfully plan with them how to develop children's skills at the playgroup and home. The manager and staff expertly implement well-targeted early support for children who need extra help. As a result, these children make rapid progress. Staff skilfully interact with children, who eagerly take part in the many exciting activities. Children show high levels of ingenuity and imagination. They observe, experiment, explore and create, using a wealth of resources. The manager and staff adeptly build on children's listening, attention and understanding. They help children to be very articulate and resourceful. Close links with the school nursery ensures everyone expertly complements the learning of children who attend both settings.

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

Well-received home visits and tailored settling-in sessions ensure children soon settle. They develop close bonds with the extremely kind and effective manager and staff. Practitioners thoroughly understand and conscientiously meet all children's care, dietary and health needs. The manager and staff expertly help children to be emotionally and socially ready for starting nursery and school. During afternoon sessions, children thoroughly enjoy having lunch and learning in the school. They often take part in exciting activities with children from the nursery and Reception class. Other aspects of children's emotional well-being are skilfully promoted. They confidently contribute to group discussions and independently manage their personal care. Staff expertly develop children's good behaviour, relationships and cooperation. Staff and the children often discuss sharing, taking turns, being kind and trying hard. Children are given an excellent understanding of how to promote their own good health and safety during activities, discussions and routines.

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

The manager, staff and committee are passionate and dedicated. They fully meet children's and families' needs. There are exceptional partnerships between the playgroup, parents, the school and other agencies. These all contribute to the exemplary provision. The manager, staff and committee astutely check the quality of all aspects of the playgroup, taking account of parents' and children's views. They skilfully drive improvements by rigorously checking children's progress and enhancing the range and quality of activities and resources. This includes extending facilities for children's outdoor learning and working with the school to strengthen the teaching of early mathematics and literacy. There are clearly defined plans to extend children's use of information and communication technology. Staff are well-qualified and benefit from excellent development and training procedures. This ensures outstanding teaching and care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205312
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	864094
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Abbey Road Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2010
Telephone number	01386 552388

Abbey Road Playgroup opened in 1984 and operates in Pershore, Worcestershire. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, the manager holds a level 4 early years qualification and five staff hold early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Thursday during school term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm on Monday to Wednesday, as well as from 9am to 12 noon on Thursday. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Support is given to children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. There are close links with the school and the children's centre.

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