

Kookaburra Playgroup

Hills Farm Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1TZ



Inspection date

1 June 2015

Previous inspection date

26 February 2009

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

- Children thoroughly enjoy outdoor play in the extremely well-resourced and interesting environment. This promotes their health and physical well-being securely.
- Children make good progress and are extremely well prepared for their future learning because the quality of teaching is effective
- Safeguarding and risk assessment procedures are thorough and implemented by all staff.
- Management implements effective recruitment and vetting procedures to check staff's suitability to work with children. As a result, this helps ensure staff are qualified, experienced and committed to providing good quality care.
- The effective key-person approach means that staff work closely with parents to understand each child's needs. This helps staff to promptly seek help for those with additional needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children have access to fiction, non-fiction and reference materials. However, staff do not make sure these are readily available throughout the learning environment. This does not fully support children's early literacy skills during their play and learning experiences.
- Staff provide a book loan service so parents can read with their children at home. However, they do not extend this further with ideas for activities parents could undertake to support children's further learning at home.

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 access to non-fiction and reference books in the different areas of the environment to further support children's play and learning
- enhance children's further learning by offering parents more ideas about activities they can try at home with their children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and talked with children and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications for all staff that work in the playgroup.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including children's assessment records and planning of activities. The inspector also looked at safeguarding procedures and the playgroup's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke with parents on the day of inspection to seek their views.

Inspector

Janet Thouless

Inspection findings

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

Children take part in a wide range of exciting and stimulating play activities. Staff seek the views of children about activities they would like in order to plan activities that reflect children's interests. As a result, children remain engaged and interested in their learning. Children are confident to try new things and approach activities with enthusiasm and imagination. For example, staff introduce scientific activities such as how different objects float or sink. Staff ask children questions and encourage them to share their ideas on predicted outcomes, which extends their language skills. Therefore, children are confident to express their views and become skilful communicators. Staff support children to find and identify slugs, snails and ladybirds. Magnifying glasses and posters are well placed to support children as they discover nature. Children develop early writing skills as they are encouraged to sound out and write letters in their names. Staff complete regular observations and assessments of children's achievements. This helps staff to plan effectively for children's progress to prepare them well for the next stage in their learning.

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

Children form trusting relationships with staff. Staff support children to learn how to relate to each other. As a result, children show great care towards each other as they engage in cooperative play. Children develop their confidence and learn acceptable behaviour through clear boundaries and praise. Staff keep children safe as they engage children in discussions about holding on to the handrails as they climb the steps on the slide. This helps children develop a good awareness of how to keep safe. Staff maintain high standards of hygiene to prevent the risk of cross-infection, which promotes children's good health. Children learn about food that is good for them as they help to grow fruit and vegetables and prepare these to eat at snack time.

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

The provider is committed and passionate about her role and the staff team work very well together. They regularly evaluate the strengths and weakness of their practice and service to drive continuous improvement. They value the opinions of parents, children and other professionals, which they gain through regular feedback. The provider monitors children's progress and the activities that are provided. As a result, she successfully evaluates the quality of teaching, which helps her to identify further improvements to benefit children's outcomes. The provider monitors staff practice and they attend regular supervision meetings. Staff attend training such as managing children's behaviour and outdoor activities. This helps support children's learning and development securely. Parents speak highly about the playgroup and staff and, overall, have access to effective information.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY381404
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	829727
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	43
Name of provider	Lucille Rossina Harrod
Date of previous inspection	26 February 2009
Telephone number	01403 269548

Kookaburra Playgroup registered in 2008 and operates from a purpose built building in Horsham, West Sussex. The playgroup is open from 8.15am to 3.30pm during term times and for some school holidays. The playgroup receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. There are seven staff who work directly with the children. The manager has an early years foundation degree and four staff hold relevant qualifications at Level 2 or 3.

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