

Four Oaks Pre-School Playgroup



Four Oaks Junior & Infant School, Edge Hill Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands,
B74 4PA

Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

12 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The practitioner team are well qualified and have a good understanding of the different ways children learn. They use their observations of children effectively to plan meaningful activities, to ensure children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Successful partnerships between parents, carers and other agencies ensure children's individual needs are met well.
- Children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle is promoted very well. Practitioners talk to children about the importance of drinking water, eating the right food and how exercise helps to keep them healthy.
- Good priority is given to safeguarding children. The manager and practitioner team know the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care.
- The provider/manager and practitioner team show a strong commitment to improving outcomes for all children. There are successful systems in place to monitor and evaluate all aspects of the provision and to work with other professionals, to continually improve the provision to benefit children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's play and learning in the outdoor area is not yet fully enhanced to embrace the use of natural resources.
- Practitioners do not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's knowledge and learning in the local environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to extend their play and learning in the outdoor area, for example, by using more natural resources in their play
- build on opportunities for children to develop their knowledge of the local area and the wider society.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery with the provider/manager.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's learning and development records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the practitioners working with children and the pre-school's self-evaluation form and action plans.
- The inspector talked to the provider/manager about their self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector took account of the views of staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Jacqueline Nation

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching and learning is good and this has a positive impact on the progress children make in their learning. A good range of information is gathered about children's starting points in their learning by talking to parents when children first start. They continue to share ongoing information to promote home learning and support every child's needs. Practitioners use their observations to plan purposeful activities, which are precisely focused on children's interests and next steps in learning. They are skilful in the way in which they use adult-led and child-initiated activities to question and challenge children's thinking. Children enjoy the opportunity to make cards for special occasions and are encouraged to use their imagination and creative skills. They enjoy pretend play in the home corner and dressing up. They play well alongside each other and spend time building a big train track. Children's language skills are particularly well developed by practitioners during play, such as while playing in the sand and water outside and during story time. Lovely conversations evolve and this promotes children's confidence, speaking and listening skills.

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

Children are confident and enjoy coming to this busy and welcoming pre-school. Their behaviour is very good and they show care and consideration to one another. Practitioners are attentive and caring towards the children. They provide children with lots of praise and encouragement. Children make independent choices about their play and develop good self-help skills in readiness for school. They follow good hygiene practices and wash their hands before eating. Children's physical development is promoted very well and they spend plenty of time playing outdoors. Practitioners organise the playroom well. However, there is room to build on the learning experiences outside, for example, by providing more natural resources for children to explore, and to extend their learning and knowledge of the local area. Strong links with the school on site supports a smooth move for children to their next phase in learning.

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

The provider/manager has a good understanding of the legal requirements. Prompt action has been taken to improve the provision since the last inspection. Effective procedures are in place to ensure the suitability of practitioners working with the children, and the committee members. Children are kept safe and secure. Practitioners are vigilant and deployed well. Observation and assessment works well and practitioners consistently plan to ensure children's individual learning needs are met. The manager checks the progress children make and the quality of learning. Practitioners extend their knowledge through training to strengthen the quality of teaching and learning. Parents spoken to at the time of the inspection feel very welcome at the pre-school and are very pleased with the care and progress children make in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	229110
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1013603
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	60
Name of provider	Edge Hill Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2014
Telephone number	07966 147 584

Four Oaks Pre-School Playgroup was registered in 1993. The group employs eight members of childcare staff who work with children. Of these, one member of staff holds Early Years Professional Status, six members of staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 and one member of staff holds a level 2 qualification. The group is open Monday to Friday, during school term times. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm Monday and Wednesday, from 9am until 12 noon on Tuesday and Thursday, and from 8.45am until 12.45pm on Friday. The group provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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