

Tiggers Playgroup Balcombe



Parish Rooms, Stockcroft Road, Balcombe, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 6LH

Inspection date

11 June 2015

Previous inspection date

14 February 2011

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

- Staff support children extremely well through focused interactions. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive exceptional help because staff work closely with other professionals to seek additional support for individual children. Children progress very well and any gaps in their learning close rapidly.
- Staff make precise assessments that utilise parents' views and use them skilfully to ensure that children's individual needs are met. Therefore, children make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Staff are able to embrace their training wishes and attend courses which they feel will improve children's experiences in the setting. They have created an outdoor space rich in learning opportunities, following a course on learning outdoors.
- Staff work extremely closely with parents, which builds superb links between home and the setting. Staff share children's achievements with their parents, which builds children's self-esteem and confidence.
- The staff's excellent relationships with parents ensure high levels of continuity for children's care. The presence of a parent liaison officer keeps parents up-to-date and highly involved in their children's experiences at the setting.
- The manager ensures staff have an excellent knowledge of how to safeguard children. They reinforce staff's responsibilities through frequent tests and training. Staff have a strong knowledge of the signs of abuse or neglect and know how to reports these.
- Staff prepare children exceptionally well for school. They learn the sounds of letters, which helps to support their early reading. They have materials to draw and write; however, the provision to practise early writing is not as exciting as the other activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer a greater range of fun activities to enhance children's drawing and early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the inside and outside play areas.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager of a group activity.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took account of parents' views spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Kerry Lynn

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with extremely rich opportunities to explore exciting challenges. For example, children excitedly consider ways to rescue dinosaurs from blocks of ice. Children decide what they want to play and staff join in to extend their ideas with skilful interaction. Staff make excellent use of questions to make children's learning progressive. Staff use remarkably personalised plans to focus activities precisely for children's individual next steps in learning. They diligently build on children's interests when planning, thus ensuring they remain excited and engaged. When a children show an interest in doctors, staff create a hospital role play area. Children are enormously creative in their play. They act out favourite stories and make spaceships from large construction toys. The outstanding quality of teaching means children are exceptionally well stimulated and become highly effective learners in preparation for school.

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

Staff put in a tremendous effort to make the environment stimulating and inviting. Bright displays enable children to interact with their surroundings. Children and staff have wonderful relationships, which are evident as they laugh and play together. Children are very sociable and work together cooperatively. Staff recognise children's positive behaviour and praise them using a carefully considered system of 'Happy Goals'. For example, they reward children's good behaviour with a beach themed party. Children are motivated to be kind and considerate to others. The highly positive environment is reflective of the success of staff's sensitive encouragement. Children know about healthy lifestyles. They enjoy healthy snacks and are involved in growing many of the fruits and vegetables they eat. They discuss exercise as they look at posters that remind them of healthy practices. Children enjoy exercise, such as music and movement, and yoga.

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

The manager is extremely dedicated to achieving high standards. She is highly evaluative, which drives improvements to achieve high standards. For example, she has made vast improvements since the last inspection in terms of children's safety. She ensures the environment is extremely safe for children because she makes astonishingly robust assessments to minimise risk. In addition, staff prepare children well at the beginning of each day to consider their own safety. For example, they talked about the weather and asked children what to consider in terms of the sun. They confidently replied that they must wear sun hats. The manager monitors children's progress with extreme care. She uses the information to prepare individual plans for children. Her highly attentive style ensures learning outcomes for children are high.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113790
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	839909
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	Tiggers Playgroup Balcombe Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2011
Telephone number	07890 022846

Tiggers Playgroup Balcombe registered in 2001 and is managed by a voluntary committee of parents. The playgroup is in the village of Balcombe, West Sussex. It is open each weekday from 9.15am to 1.15pm. There are nine members of staff; of these, five hold Level 3 qualifications and one staff holds a Level 5 qualification. The setting receives funding for free early education to children aged two, three and four years old. There are some children with pupil-premium funding on roll.

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