

Holsworthy Playgroup

Badock Gardens, Bodmin Street, HOLSWORTHY, Devon, EX22 6BQ



Inspection date

15 June 2015

Previous inspection date

18 March 2010

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 make good progress in their learning because staff assess their knowledge and skills effectively. They use this information to provide interesting activities to challenge and extend their learning.
- The quality of teaching from key staff is strong. They model language well and maximise the use of everyday opportunities to introduce and reinforce children's understanding of mathematical ideas such as 'full', 'empty' and 'heavy'.
- Staff develop strong relationships with the children which helps children to settle well. Consequently, children feel secure and show this through being confident and happy within the group.
- Staff create a nurturing and warm environment where children have access to a wide range of activities and experiences.
- The management team makes effective use of both formal and informal systems to review provision and identify areas for development.
- Key persons have a clear understanding of children's individual needs. They work well with parents and external agencies to ensure that they are able to support children and meet their needs effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- While staff share good information when children transfer from the playgroup to the local nursery, they do not share detailed enough information about the learning of the few children who continue to attend both settings.
- Leaders do not always make full use of all opportunities to support less confident staff to strengthen the quality of their teaching.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the sharing of information about children's ongoing achievements with other providers
- find more ways to support less confident staff to strengthen their interactions with children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector met with the manager and deputy manager and looked at relevant documents.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children.

Inspector

Jo Beighton

Inspection findings

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

Key persons have good knowledge and work with parents and other agencies effectively to help children to achieve well in their learning. Consequently, children are confident talkers and cooperative learners. Staff who work at both the playgroup and the local nursery help children to settle well when they move from one to the other. For the small number of children who continue to attend both settings, information is then shared on an informal basis. This is not always detailed enough to allow staff to take a full account when planning next steps for children's learning in the playgroup. Staff model language well and repeat sentences back to the children, adding more vocabulary to encourage children to extend their speech. Key staff make good use of everyday opportunities to introduce ideas into children's play, such as how heavy the bag of bricks is becoming. Children recognise that words have meaning as they use the snack chart to 'read' what choices they have. They write their names on their work. This helps to prepare children for school.

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

Staff are good role models and provide sensitive explanations and support to help children understand how to behave well. Children respond well and are able to share and take turns. They are independent and confidently take care of their own needs, washing their hands and helping themselves to drinks. Staff organise the playroom and outdoor area well and offer children a broad range of activities. Children decide what they want to do and choose from a good variety of resources to support their learning. Staff keep the premises safe and secure. Staff have a clear understanding of how to take action if they have concerns about a child's safety. They work closely with other agencies to meet safeguarding requirements. Children learn to keep themselves safe. For example, staff encourage them to check that there are no toys or children below when jumping down from the pirate ship.

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

Management uses supervision meetings and general observations effectively to recognise staff skills and identify areas for development. They use training to help staff to further improve aspects of their teaching or the quality of provision. During studies for her degree, the deputy manager has gained good knowledge about children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. She uses this to work effectively with parents and other agencies to support children's development. Consequently, children make rapid progress and any gaps in their development narrow. However, management does not always use every opportunity to strengthen the individual teaching skills of less confident staff while they wait for planned training sessions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106337
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	835751
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	26
Name of provider	Holsworthy Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2010
Telephone number	07817 486043

Holsworthy Playgroup registered in 1992. The group is run by a voluntary management committee and operates from its own premises set within a public garden area in Holsworthy, North Devon. The group is registered to receive funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The playgroup is open on Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 3pm and on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 12 noon, during term times only. There are currently eight members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to 4.

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