

Wivelsfield Green Playgroup

Village Hall, Wivelsfield Green, East Sussex, RH17 7QH



Inspection date

22 June 2015

Previous inspection date

16 September 2011

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

- All those involved in the pre-school have an excellent understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Everyone is checked to ensure their suitability, and staff have an exemplary understanding of how to take action should they have concerns about the welfare of a child.
- The manager and staff are extremely skilled at meeting the learning and development requirements. They have an expert understanding of how children learn, and plan highly interesting activities, which help children to make outstanding progress.
- Children's well-being is highly regarded by the staff team. Staff carry out home visits and get to know each family extremely well, so children are very confident in the pre-school. This promotes a high degree of emotional development.
- The committee, manager and staff set high standards for themselves and share a set of inspirational values. These values are evident in all aspects of their work and place the needs of the child at the heart of everything they do.
- The manager and staff have built exemplary partnerships with parents and other professionals. As a result, all children benefit from highly consistent care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further children's understanding of how to manage their feelings by exploring how they engage each other in play, and listen to the wishes of friends.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play indoors and outside.
- The inspector examined a range of documents plus children's online records.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Susan McCourt

Inspection findings

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

Staff and parents work extremely closely together. Staff carry out home visits before children start so that they get to know each family really well. Staff make close observations of children's achievements and keep online journals of learning that parents have immediate access to at any time. Staff include parents' comments and observations in the progress reports, such as how children use technology in their homes. This creates an excellent partnership in learning. Staff plan innovative activities to engage children in challenging play, based on children's interests. This means that children who are gifted or talented are making further progress, and that children who may have a delay in speech are also making rapid progress. Staff have excellent techniques for building all children's thinking skills, giving them extremely good skills for their future learning.

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

Children cooperate really well in play and staff are excellent role models. They encourage children to think about their feelings, and how other people feel. Sometimes however, some children do not fully understand that friends might not want to play their game or be hugged, for example. Staff provide an excellent learning environment with a wealth of good quality toys and play materials. For example, children had various pieces of wood to create a bug hotel, and spent several days constructing this, plus a range of other things. This shows that children are very independent and highly motivated as they have space and time to experiment in their play. Staff are very attentive to children's health and physical development. Children understand how to take care of their personal hygiene, and help prepare food for their snack. They enjoy frequent outdoor play and physical activity, which means they have excellent support for their physical care and development.

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

The manager and committee have been highly effective in setting inspirational goals for staff and parents. They have coupled this with a rigorous and well-targeted drive for improvement, starting with recruiting high calibre staff and reviewing all aspects of their practice. This has established a high standard based on high expectations of children and staff. Staff benefit from regular supervision and appraisal with expert coaching and mentoring from the manager, with the full support of the committee. As a result, the manager has created a very effective team with highly consistent teaching skills. The manager carries out frequent analysis of the progress that children and groups of children are making. In this way, she works with her staff team to address achievement gaps as soon as she identifies any, such as the writing skills of boys. The team then take highly effective steps to raise standards and monitor their progress rigorously.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109539
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	839612
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Wivelsfield Green Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2011
Telephone number	01444 471645

Wivelsfield Green Playgroup has been established in the village since 1972. It is run by a management committee and is in Wivelsfield Green, East Sussex. The playgroup is in receipt of funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. Playgroup sessions operate on Monday and Friday from 9am to 12.45pm, and Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am to 3pm, term time only. The playgroup employs four members of staff, three of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

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