

# Parkwood 'Poppets' Playgroup

Parkwood Green, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 9PN



<b>Inspection date</b>	24 June 2015
Previous inspection date	28 June 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Management and staff have high expectations for children and praise their attempts and achievements. They encourage children to work together and support each other. Therefore, children gain confidence and behave well.
- The manager shares comprehensive policies with the parents. This supports their understanding of the procedures and vision of the playgroup. The manager gathers parents' feedback to help with evaluating the provision.
- Children choose to play either inside or outside, and decide which activities they wish to take part in. As a result, children learn to make decisions, which prepare them well for their future learning.
- Children are enthusiastic learners who make good progress. All staff have a thorough understanding of each child's next steps for learning. They promote these through extremely effective planning of activities and resources.
- Parents report that they are extremely happy with the service provided and that they feel a part of the playgroup team.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of all opportunities to promote children's independence as they do not consistently encourage children to do things for themselves. For example, they do not always give children time to attempt getting dressed themselves before giving them help.
- Although staff provide a good variety of physical activities, they do not always provide more challenging activities or equipment to fully extend older children.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help children develop their independence further by giving them more time to manage tasks for themselves
- provide more opportunities for challenge and extend older children's physical skills further.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to staff members and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning throughout the inside and outside area.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, safeguarding policies and procedures, and a range of other documentation.

### Inspector

June Keeler

## Inspection findings

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

Children are given time to develop their own learning ideas, as they explore and discover for themselves. They spend long periods focused on their play, for example, while making motor bikes out of construction blocks. This positively develops children's concentration skills, which are essential for future learning. During this activity, the staff extended their learning well by encouraging the children to describe what they would need to wear on the bikes and to take on their picnic. This effectively supported the children's communication and language skills and deepened their understanding of the world. The quality of teaching is good. Staff understand how children learn and provide a good balance between activities led by adults and activities children choose for themselves. Staff are flexible and follow children's interests which motivates them to learn. Children have good opportunities to follow their own ideas and develop their hand-to-eye coordination during craft activities. Staff use these opportunities to introduce mathematical language, such as large and small.

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

Staff are caring and affectionate. A well-established key-person system ensures that children and parents develop strong relationships with staff. They provide a supportive and caring environment which helps children to feel safe and secure. Children settle quickly and are confident in their surroundings. Staff deploy themselves well around so they can keep children safe and efficiently support any child that needs them. The manager ensures that staff have a thorough knowledge of safeguarding. They know the procedure to follow should they have any concerns about children or other staff, therefore protecting children from harm. Staff provide a healthy snack and teach children about how vegetables grow and foods that are good for them. This contributes to their good understanding of a healthy lifestyle. Staff provide a wide range of activities and a choice of play areas, so that all children can feel comfortable and secure. This promotes their well-being effectively.

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

The manager and senior staff make sure that everyone is aware of children's individual needs and ensure staff plan effectively to meet these, including additional needs, well. The manager and staff work effectively together as a team. Everyone is consulted and included in implementing improvements to the setting. The management team have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements them well. The manager regularly observes staff and gives feedback and guidance continually to improving practice. Training ensures that all staff keep their knowledge updated and relevant. The manager monitors children's progress effectively to ensure all children progress well. This also ensures that they cover all areas of learning

successfully.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	103831
<b>Local authority</b>	Medway Towns
<b>Inspection number</b>	845868
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	25
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	50
<b>Name of provider</b>	Parkwood Community Association Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28 June 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	01634 371886

Parkwood Poppets Playgroup registered in 1977 and operates in Parkwood, Rainham, Kent. Sessions are run each weekday, term time only, from 9.15am to 3pm. There are nine staff who work with the children; of these one holds a qualification at level 5, six hold qualifications at level 3 and two hold qualifications at level 2. The provider is registered for educational funding for two, three and four year old children.

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