

Feltwell Playgroup

Women's Institute Hall, The Beck, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4DB



Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

22 September 2014

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision	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 management team have worked very effectively with the local authority since the previous inspection to raise the overall quality of the playgroup. They consistently reflect on practice and work with staff to identify areas that can be developed even further.
- Staff use their observations and assessments of children's learning and development to identify and support their next steps through planned activities. This means that children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They also develop the key skills they need for the next stage in their learning and school.
- Children benefit from strong links with the community. They visit the local school, church and shop. Visits from professionals, such as a nurse, post lady, hairdresser and dentist, enhance their understanding of their community and people who help us.
- Staff have developed very good partnerships with parents. They talk with them regularly to ensure that they feel included and well informed about their children's learning and development. Parents are supported to extend children's learning at home, and this collaborative approach contributes to the good progress children make.
- Staff demonstrate a strong focus on safeguarding children. As a result, children are protected from harm and cared for safely.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not always supported to share best practice with each other.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to share best practice with each other and engage in discussions aimed at promoting reflection and continual improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the inside and outside play areas.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager of the provision and the chair of the playgroup committee.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. She viewed a range of other documentation, including self-evaluation and policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

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

Staff have developed stimulating indoor and outdoor environments which enable children to learn and develop across all areas of learning. They join in children's play to extend their learning. For example, in the role-play shop staff make links to the real world and extend their ideas. Children count the money as they put it in the cash till, which helps to develop their mathematical skills and understanding of technology. Children enjoy being creative as they mix colours to paint the bricks that will decorate their float for the village carnival. Staff encourage children's involvement and use a variety of techniques to develop their communication and language skills. For example, they ask questions to help children think, and encourage them to contribute to stories and songs. Children are developing their early literacy skills as they know some letters and sounds and practise writing their names.

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

Children thrive in the stimulating and nurturing environment. They are confident, well-motivated and have formed very strong bonds with their key person. Staff are good role models, promoting kindness and praising children who make good choices. This helps all children to have a clear understanding of behavioural expectations and boundaries. Children have daily opportunities to play outdoors. This promotes healthy lifestyles and their physical development. They choose from a range of healthy foods at snack time and enjoy good levels of independence. For example, they can pour their own drinks, serve their own food and clear their plates away. Staff help children to learn about keeping themselves safe as they play and use a variety of equipment. Daily risk assessments are completed to minimise any hazards in the learning environments.

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

The committee members fully understand their responsibilities and support the manager very well. As a result, there is a shared commitment to improve the playgroup for the benefit of children and their families. There are robust recruitment procedures, including detailed checks, to ensure the suitability of staff. All staff are aware of how to protect the children in their care and know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns. Staff are well qualified and experienced and this has a positive impact on children's learning and development. They are supported to attend relevant courses and gain additional qualifications. The manager carries out supervision and appraisals to offer support and identify training needs. However, there are fewer opportunities for staff to learn directly from each other to help strengthen the quality of teaching even further. Staff track children's progress effectively to identify any gaps in their learning. Parents speak very positively about the playgroup. They find staff friendly and approachable, and say that they are very happy with the progress that their children are making.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254063
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	992608
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	41
Name of provider	Feltwell Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	22 September 2014
Telephone number	01842827555 and 07582371984

Feltwell Playgroup was registered in 1992. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens each weekday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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