

Warden Bay Playgroup

Village Hall, Warden Bay Road, Warden, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4NB



Inspection date

15 July 2015

Previous inspection date

4 November 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

- Staff provide a stimulating environment which fully promotes children's emotional well-being. Therefore, children build good relationships with staff and each other.
- Staff work very closely with parents and share their children's progress with them. This helps parents to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff work very well together and the effective key-person approach helps to ensure that they meet the individual needs of all the children who attend.
- Staff observe and assess children's development precisely in order to plan for children's next steps in learning. Skilful tracking ensures that there are no gaps in learning. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff develop close links with schools and other professionals. Staff teach children to be independent, which helps to prepare them for their move to school.
- Staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and are aware of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns regarding children's welfare. Staff attend regular training to keep their knowledge up to date and to keep children safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide a good enough range of resources outside for all children to play with. Therefore, children who learn best outdoors do not always receive sufficient challenge in their learning.
- Staff do not always ensure that all children are aware of the routine for the end of the morning session. Therefore, this part of the session is sometimes noisy and does not fully support children's awareness of what is happening next.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the arrangements to ensure that children are familiar with the routines of the setting
- develop the range of resources available for children to play with outdoors in order to support those children who learn best outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies and procedures and children's progress records.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They provide a good range of resources to interest and motivate the children. During the inspection, the children enjoyed exploring paint and making models with the sand. They use their imaginations in the large role play area, which promotes their creative development well. Staff deployment is very good and they all know how to extend children's learning successfully. For example, they talk about children's height in centimetres and ask children questions to encourage their thinking skills. This enables all children to remain actively engaged at the activities they choose independently. Outdoors children use wheeled toys to extend their physical development and learn about road safety during their play.

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

Children settle into the setting well. This is in part due to recent training which has identified ways to develop the environment for younger children. Children develop good personal and communication skills. They are confident to access the snack bar for healthy snacks and to manage their own care routines. This helps children to learn about healthy lifestyles. Staff take children on visits locally, which promotes their understanding of the community in which they live, while promoting their physical well-being. Staff are positive role models and give regular praise to children. As a result, children behave well because they learn about the accepted behaviours and boundaries within the setting. Children learn how to keep safe because staff teach them how to manage risk effectively.

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

The manager is highly organised and has attended many training courses during the last year to take on her new role. For example, as a result of monitoring children's progress she identified a gap in communication and language. She then accessed training to help evaluate and strengthen the resources to develop children's language further. The manager works closely with the committee and holds regular staff meetings. She has implemented new strategies for self-evaluation and involves parents, children, committee and staff in the ongoing development of the setting. This helps to maintain improved outcomes for children. The manager ensures that all staff receive challenge to develop their skills further through effective supervision meetings, observation and training. This helps to provide high quality teaching and learning for the children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127753
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	984079
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Warden Bay Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2010
Telephone number	07733 210301

Warden Bay Playgroup registered in 1995 and is in Sheerness, Kent. The group opens for five mornings and two afternoons during term time only. There are six staff members, two of whom hold early years qualifications to level 3 and two at level 2. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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