

Aldwinckle Playgroup

Main Street, Aldwinckle, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN14 3EL



Inspection date

21 September 2015

Previous inspection date

14 May 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has not notified Ofsted of changes to members of the committee.
- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of opportunities that arise to enable children to develop their skills when using a variety of construction materials.

It has the following strengths

- The staff provide effective teaching for individual children. They plan suitable activities that are linked to children's interests that help children make progress in their learning.
- Children's individual needs are met well. Staff seek information from home when children start attending and ongoing that enables them to provide a consistent approach to children's care and learning.
- Children are safe at the pre-school because the staff maintain close supervision during activities, both inside and outside.
- Children benefit from the close relationships they have with staff. Children are spoken to with respect and their opinions are valued. This results in children feeling safe and a sense of belonging in the pre-school.
- Effective partnership working with the local school and with others who are involved with the children contributes to children being well-prepared for the next stage in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the provider must:

Due Date

- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth and telephone number of any partner, director, senior officer or other member of the governing body. 12/10/2015

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

- maximise the opportunities for children to use a variety of construction materials independently to extend their interest.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and with one member of staff. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The arrangements for safeguarding are generally effective. There are members of the committee that Ofsted is not aware of. This is a breach of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. However, these people do not have direct contact with children, therefore, the potential risk to children is minimal. Suitable recruitment, induction and supervision procedures are in place to ensure staff's suitability is checked. The manager and staff team work well together, to ensure that each child has their needs met. Staff understand how to safeguard children because they attend training. Positive action has been taken on the issues raised at the last inspection. Thorough risk assessments are carried out and reviewed. Staff receive good support to continue to improve their practice. For example, they attend training that has a positive impact on promoting children's communication and language skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff keep a close check on what children can do. They observe regularly and plan activities that follow children's interests and which provide challenges to help them to make good progress. Children's developing communication and language is supported well. Staff speak to them clearly during activities, ensuring they give time for children to consider their response during individual and group conversations. Children thoroughly enjoy the staff's positive and sensitive involvement in their play. Staff ask well-placed questions, showing a genuine interest in what the children are doing. This results in children leading their own activities. Children enjoy being creative with art and craft activities that result in lively conversations. However, on occasion children are not encouraged to do things for themselves when they use different construction materials.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children's welfare is not fully protected due to a weakness in leadership and management. Nevertheless, children are able to settle in successfully because the staff work individually with them and their parents. This results in children being confident, happy and able to take part in all the activities. There is a well-established key-person system and staff have a good understanding of each child's needs and interests. Good links with local schools and other providers means that information about children's progress is shared effectively. Children are progressing well in relation to their personal, social and emotional development. They are treated with respect. Staff are good role models who take time to help children to resolve minor conflicts that arise. Children benefit from plenty of opportunities to play outside, and enjoy healthy snacks and drinks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress because staff know them well and carry out effective planning. Children are independent. For example, they choose when they have their snack and serve themselves. Their literacy skills are developing well; they recognise the letters in their name and practise writing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	219989
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	871264
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	23
Name of provider	Aldwinckle Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2012
Telephone number	01832 720566

Aldwinckle Playgroup was registered in 1997. The setting is managed by a committee and employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 and 4. The setting opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.45am until 2.50pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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