

# Happy Tots Playgroup

2-4 Blackfriars, Rushden, Northamptonshire, NN10 9PQ



## Inspection date

22 September 2015

Previous inspection date

12 May 2011

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

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- The manager is very well organised. She effectively reviews the quality of her practice and sets herself clear targets that take into account the views of children, parents and staff.
- The manager supports staff to develop their professional knowledge and understanding, in order to improve their practice.
- Teaching is good and in some cases outstanding. Staff make accurate assessments of children's learning and use these to plan opportunities that inspire their desire to learn. Children are highly engaged and make good progress.
- Children's good behaviour is reinforced by positive praise from the staff. They are helped to understand the importance of using good manners, such as saying please and thank you.
- Children are happy and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. They quickly settle and develop close attachments to staff.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although outstanding aspects of practice are often achieved, these are not consistent throughout the sessions across the playgroup.
- Staff do not regularly liaise with parents to help them to understand how to further support their children's learning at home.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for staff to support each other to maintain the very high levels of practice that are often achieved throughout the playgroup's sessions
- explore further ways to support parents in continuing and extending their children's learning at home.

### 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 playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the playgroup's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Ann Lee

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager fully understands her roles and responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She and her staff demonstrate a total dedication and commitment in their pursuit of providing children with a wealth of interesting and stimulating opportunities. Arrangements to safeguard children are effective and all staff understand the procedure to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care. Effective processes ensure that identified risks are minimised. Parents are very complimentary about the care their children receive and the progress that they make.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning and eventual move to school. Staff skilfully adapt activities to ensure they meet children's individual needs. Children's communication and language skills are effectively supported because staff continuously chat with children as they play. Children make imaginary cakes from soft dough. Staff introduce mathematical language as they discuss whether they have large or small pieces of cake. Children enjoy group activities. They happily sing songs and take turns to play musical instruments. Children recall a recent bus trip as they look at photographs taken by staff. Staff support them to identify the different areas that they visited, which helps children to learn about people and communities beyond the playgroup. Children have a wonderful time in the exceptionally well-resourced outdoor area. They splash in puddles and observe the patterns that the rain makes on the slabs. Parents are kept regularly informed about the progress that their children are making. However, the playgroup does not routinely support parents with ideas of how to continue their children's learning at home. As a result, children's learning is not continuous or consolidated.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models to children. They are calm and kind and frequently praise children's achievements. This supports children to feel good about themselves and to become motivated and confident. Children are learning to be tolerant to one another and to respect each other's differences. Older children support their younger peers as they happily play together. Staff encourage children to become independent. They learn to take care of their own personal needs and move freely around the setting, selecting resources that interest them. Staff promote healthy practices. Children enjoy being physically active by joining in with group exercises and riding bikes in the outdoor area. They talk about which foods are healthy as they eat their lunches.

### Outcomes for children are good

The playgroup environment is rich and varied and provides a wealth of learning opportunities both inside and outdoors. This ensures that all children are engaged in their activities and are developing a positive attitude to learning. Children, including those with disabilities, special educational needs and those with English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting point.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	219912
<b>Local authority</b>	Northamptonshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	865823
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	30
<b>Name of provider</b>	Colleen Walker
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	12 May 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01933 410700

Happy Tots Playgroup was registered in 1999. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3 and 4. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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