

Brambles Playgroup

St. Helens Primary School, Colne Road, Bluntisham, HUNTINGDON, Cambridgeshire,
PE28 3NY



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

23 September 2015

29 March 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

- Staff have undertaken safeguarding training. Staff understand child protection procedures and their responsibility to protect children in their care.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide exciting and challenging activities which support children's interests and individual stage of development.
- The children's behaviour is good. Children learn how to share and take turns.
- Staff liaise effectively with parents to ensure that they work together to meet children's care needs and promote their learning.
- Children are independent learners. Children self-select quality toys and resources that motivate them to learn.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not promptly use the information gained from parents to assess what children can already do when they start at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use the information gathered from parents more promptly when children start to support more precise planning for their individual needs from the outset of care.

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

Inspector

Lorna Blackie

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team is proactive in leading a well-managed provision. The well-qualified staff and the experienced management team have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Self-evaluation practices are robust. Management regularly obtain the views of parents, staff, children and other professionals in their drive for consistent improvement. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff assess and minimise risks successfully. The manager regularly observes staff's practice in order to discuss strengths and areas for improvement during supervision sessions. The manager keeps herself up to date with new regulations and changes within early years education. She reads online articles, holds discussions with other professionals and shares this knowledge with the staff team.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff consistently observe and assess children's progress during play. This information is used to assess what children can do and plan their next steps in learning. Staff share information about children's achievements with their parents regularly. Staff plan meaningful activities to support what children like and can do. Children use mathematical language and concepts during play. They use bricks to measure their height and are able to say if they need more or less. Children develop good literacy skills. They take pleasure in engaging in interactive stories. Children take turns in telling their part of the story and delight in retelling well-known phrases. Children are curious and motivated to learn more. Staff encourage children to find solutions during play. They investigate capacity when making castles out of sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's personal, social and emotional development is given great priority by staff. They are sensitive to the children's individual needs and support them to feel safe and secure. Children benefit from a stimulating and well-organised indoor environment. The outdoor area is used successfully for a range of play activities and children are physically active. Children have regular visits to the park. Children enjoy healthy snacks. They are able to develop their independence skills as they serve themselves and help to chop up the fruit. They help to clear away. The move on to school is well supported. The playgroup has an excellent partnership with the attached school. Staff share a good amount of information to provide consistency for children.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff support children effectively. They gather information from parents about the children's interests and development. However, information gained is not always used as promptly as possible to identify the children's individual learning needs and starting points. Nevertheless, all children make good progress and successfully gain the skills needed for their learning and their move on to school. Children's communication and language development is supported well. Staff engage children in conversations and ask them purposeful questions that promote their deeper thinking skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221918
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	866001
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Brambles Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	29 March 2011
Telephone number	01487 843466

Brambles Playgroup was registered in 2000 and is located in the school grounds. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with a qualification at level 4. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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