

The Village Playgroup

The Community Village Centre, Church Street, Werrington, Peterborough, Cambs,
PE4 6QE



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

28 September 2015

21 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children and their families are extremely well supported as they settle. As a result, children make secure, emotional bonds with their key person very quickly. Children benefit from a highly stimulating and challenging setting where they are happy and enthusiastic to join in activities.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of how children learn and provide a rich, varied and imaginative educational programme. Planning fully embraces children's interests and learning styles which ensures activities enthuse and excite them.
- Staff give children choices; they model clear language and repeat words and sentences for reinforcement. Children are encouraged to have a voice; they make their own decisions and are confident to ask questions. They learn and use basic sign language as another means of communication. This is particularly effective for helping to support children with additional needs.
- Staff accurately assess children's progress from the beginning, establishing very secure starting points, that value parents' knowledge of their child. An effective and established system for monitoring the progress that different groups of children make is in place. This ensures timely intervention where needed to close any gaps and ensure children make rapid progress in their learning.
- Excellent relationships with parents support a shared approach to children's learning and ensures they receive consistent support that enhances their development. Children's ongoing learning needs and the progress they make is consistently shared with parents. This enables them to effectively extend and support progress at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to refine the professional development of staff to match the changing needs of children.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting'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

Carly Mooney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are very effective. Staff demonstrate an exceptional and insightful understanding of the families and children they care for. They have developed highly effective professional relationships with other agencies and providers. Staff are experienced and trained in child protection and fully understand their responsibilities in protecting children in their care. Ongoing suitability of staff is regularly checked. The playgroup is consistently monitored and evaluated to ensure children benefit from a highly stimulating and continually evolving provision. Self-evaluation is embedded in practice and action plans are targeted firmly on continued improvements. Staff relish the training opportunities they are given and the manager is constantly refining their professional development in order to meet the changing needs of the children in the playgroup.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children receive high levels of support during activities where needed and staff use a variety of highly effective teaching methods. Children are encouraged to make their own decisions and develop their problem-solving skills and independence from a young age. They are provided with excellent challenges in their play. Staff encourage children to think about what they might need to help them reach the highest tube on the water tower. They enjoy further challenges of pouring the water down different sized openings and enjoy watching to see where it goes. Staff are skilled at developing spontaneous learning opportunities. They discuss the features of a centipede children discover in the mud. Children are encouraged to hold it and describe the feeling on their hands. They learn to care for living things as they handle it carefully and place it gently back on to the mud.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff develop a deep appreciation for children's backgrounds, strengths and interests which enables them to support and promote children's welfare to a high standard. Children flourish as they become independent and learn essential social skills, such as, kindness, consideration and how to negotiate and take turns. Through discussion and planned activities children develop a superb knowledge and understanding of healthy eating practices. Children plant, grow and harvest a variety of vegetables. These are then eaten at snack time or taken home to cook and eat with their parents at mealtimes. Staff place a high priority on children's safety and ensure through a thorough process of risk assessment that children play in a safe and suitable environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Prior to starting school, children have very good opportunities to hear the initial letter sounds in their name. They explore numbers through play. They use tape measures to see how tall they are and compare the measurement of their heads. Individual learning plans are tailored very specifically to children's precise learning needs. This helps to ensure they make rapid progress towards the early learning goals from their individual starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	260895
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	867195
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	The Village Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	21 March 2011
Telephone number	01733 571224

The Village Playgroup has been operating for over 30 years. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm. A lunch club operates each day from 12.15pm until 1pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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