

Blenheim Playgroup

Blenheim House, Oxford Road, DEWSBURY, West Yorkshire, WF13 4LN



Inspection date

13 October 2015

Previous inspection date

8 November 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 well qualified and uses her knowledge and experience to continually develop the service the playgroup provides. She builds effective relationships with staff, parents and other professionals.
- All staff demonstrate a commitment to providing good quality childcare. They make good use of training to develop their skills, which has a positive impact on their teaching and children's learning.
- Children behave well and clearly understand the rules and guidelines of the playgroup. Staff help them to understand about what is expected of them and how to behave.
- Parents are very happy with the quality of the playgroup. They find the staff welcoming, approachable and supportive. Staff promote the use of children's home languages in the setting. This helps new children who speak English as an additional language to settle quickly.
- Children enjoy warm and respectful relationships with staff. Staff engage in children's role play, encouraging them to use their imagination.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Performance management arrangements do not set focused individual targets to help staff to develop their teaching skills and practice to consistently outstanding levels.
- The assessments of children's learning are not always precise and rigorously monitored.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff's professional development that increases the potential to deliver the highest quality provision and excellent outcomes for children
- strengthen the assessments of children's learning so they provide very precise information about exactly what children need to learn next.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the management, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed interactions with staff and children, both inside and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including children's learning records, evidence of staff suitability, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Eleanor Thompson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff form a stable and hard-working team. The manager is a very knowledgeable and effective leader. Self-evaluation is accurate and there are well-targeted plans for future development. The provider and manager have worked hard to successfully drive improvements since the last inspection. They have developed the outside area and children freely choose when to play outdoors. The manager regularly monitors staff's interactions and offers ongoing support and supervision. However, performance management arrangements are not yet rigorous enough to support staff to maintain exceptional teaching practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager has a sound understanding of statutory and other government requirements. Up-to-date safeguarding and child protection policies are in place. Staff are clear about their responsibilities and know the procedures to follow if they have a concern.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Resources and activities reflect the children's backgrounds and experience, supporting children's sense of belonging. Staff actively encourage children to learn about other cultures and communities beyond their immediate experience. Parents are kept informed of their children's progress. They are invited to attend workshops at the playgroup to join in with their children's learning. Staff observe and assess children's abilities and use the knowledge gained to plan the next steps in children's learning. However, where gaps in development have been identified, planning does not always target children's needs sufficiently to support high rates of progress. Children who speak English as an additional language are continually supported to gain the language skills they need to communicate effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enter the pre-school happily and immediately start to explore and play. The environment is attractive with a wide range of activities and resources that children readily access. There are good opportunities for children to develop their physical skills and learn about healthy lifestyles. Children are encouraged to think about the physical effect that exercise has on their bodies. They are well supervised and staff help them to learn how to keep safe. The key-person system is effective and staff know the children and families well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident. They are encouraged to develop self-help skills during snack time, preparing their own sandwiches and pouring their own drinks. The playgroup has successfully worked with external specialists and parents to support children's early reading skills. This supports all children to be well prepared for their move on to school. Children, including those in receipt of funded early education, make good progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY348000
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	863213
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	34
Name of provider	Safira Pandor
Date of previous inspection	8 November 2011
Telephone number	07850762391

Blenheim Playgroup was registered in 2007. There are 11 members of staff. Of these, three hold relevant qualifications at level 2, four at level 3 and three at level 5. The playgroup opens term time only from 8.30am to 11.30am and 12.30pm to 3.30pm, Monday to Friday. A lunch club operates each day. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children, those with special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

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