

Lion Farm Playcentre

2 Arley Close, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 1EA



Inspection date

20 October 2015

Previous inspection date

4 September 2014

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Requires Improvement | 3 |
| 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 develop strong emotional attachments with all children. As a result, children become confident and make friends easily. Children receive lots of meaningful praise throughout the session. This helps children to behave well.
- Staff undertake robust risk assessments in all indoor and outdoor areas. This helps to identify any possible hazards. Staff also make sure that risk assessments include all outings off the premises. This helps to keep children safe.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. This is because there is a good two-way exchange of information about each individual child's day. Parents have access to their child's learning and development journal at all times, which keeps them informed about ongoing progress.
- The self-evaluation procedures of the setting are good. The leaders and the manager work together and include the staff, all parents and the children to ensure strengths and areas for further improvement are identified and acted upon.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not regularly share some children's learning and development observations with the other settings they attend. As a result, planned next steps in the child's learning are not always aligned.
- Staff do not always seek enough information from parents about what children know and can do when they first start so that they can plan precisely for children's learning from the outset.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve partnership working by strengthening systems for sharing information with other early years providers
- gather more information about what children know and can do from parents when they first start and use this in order to plan precisely for children from the start.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and managers have a good understanding about the Early Years Foundation Stage. The manager and the staff have a clear understanding of the possible signs of abuse and neglect. Recruitment and induction procedures include checking the suitability of all staff. This promotes children's safety and well-being. The manager oversees the educational programmes. She also monitors staff practice to ensure that children take part in activities that are suitable, of interest and fosters their ongoing learning towards the early learning goals. Staff are qualified and attend training with the local authority.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff undertake observations and assess children's learning as soon as they start at the setting. Children's next steps in their learning are shared with parents so that they can further support their child's learning at home. Children's communication, language and literacy skills are promoted well. Some of the ways the staff do this is through open questions and through a running commentary during children's self-initiated and planned activities. Staff support children's readiness for school further as they read stories and encourage children to sit and listen well. Children enjoy making birthday cards to take home to their siblings and talk with the staff about their family life. Staff encourage children to take risks in their play as they challenge themselves when climbing and balancing on the outdoor equipment. This, healthy snacks and circle-time discussions help children to learn how to be healthy and fit.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn about their own cultures and the cultures of others in various ways. This includes playing with resources that reflect positive images of diversity. Other activities include explorations of various festivals through arts and crafts, story time and food tasting. Children wash their hands before eating, after outdoor play and after toileting. This ensures good levels of hygiene around the setting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and can easily access resources. The staff follow children's lead and support them well through positive interaction. Children are making confident choices and decisions about what they want to play with, which helps to promote their independence well.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Unique reference number | 255253 |
| Local authority | Sandwell |
| Inspection number | 1029629 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 17 |
| Total number of places | 32 |
| Number of children on roll | 11 |
| Name of provider | Sandwell Adventure Play Association Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 4 September 2014 |
| Telephone number | 0121 544 7368 |

Lion Farm Playcentre was registered in 1993. It is one of eight childcare provisions managed by the provider. The setting employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The setting opens from 12.30pm to 3pm Monday to Friday, term time only for pre-school aged children. The out-of-school club is open from 2.30pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term time and from 8am to 6pm during school holidays. The open-access provision for older children opens from 3.15pm to 6.15pm, Monday to Friday, during term time and from 12 noon to 3pm during school holidays.

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