

# Rainbow Playgroup (Royston Community Assoc)

Burns Road, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5PT



<b>Inspection date</b>	22 October 2015
Previous inspection date	8 February 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. Group time is a very positive experience as staff encourage children to talk about what they have learnt and enjoyed during the session. Children remain completely engaged and captivated by staff's interactive storytelling. The length of their attention and concentration is superb for children of a young age.
- The strong skills of all key persons ensure that children form very warm and caring bonds with them. Children are very happy and demonstrate that they feel exceptionally secure and confident in their care from a very early stage. Children make a very smooth move from home to playgroup and on to school when the time comes.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of how children learn. They provide highly stimulating and creative activities that are tailored and extremely focused on the individual needs and interests of each child. Staff skilfully adapt activities to ensure that all children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs, are included.
- Staff form excellent partnerships with parents. They highly value parents as their children's first educators and involve them in every aspect of their children's learning. Parents are extremely well informed, support their children's learning at home and take an active role in their children's development. Parents describe the staff as brilliant.
- The highly qualified manager and dedicated team of staff have successfully achieved a local authority accreditation award.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend excellent partnership working with newer early years settings that children attend.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities 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 and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the playgroup's self-evaluation and engagement in an accreditation award.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents and a childminder during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Lorraine Pike

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

The very experienced manager is inspirational. She has an exemplary understanding of her responsibilities in meeting and implementing the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and other government requirements. The arrangements for safeguarding children are highly effective. Staff have a robust knowledge of the action to take if they have concerns about a child. The manager's checking of children's progress is sharply focused in identifying gaps as soon as they emerge. The manager meticulously evaluates each aspect of the playgroup superbly and sets highly challenging and achievable targets for improvement. Regular supervision meetings and excellent training opportunities ensure staff are consistently up to date with their knowledge and skills. This enables them to extend children's learning experiences even further. Staff form highly successful partnerships with external agencies and other early years settings. The manager has identified that strengthening information sharing with newer settings that children attend, will support and benefit children even further.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

The well-qualified staff team use a range of different observations and their precise assessments to accurately identify children's next steps in learning. Children develop high levels of understanding of the world around them. They use magnifying glasses to explore snails in the vibrant playgroup garden. Rich and varied opportunities within the local community help children gain an excellent understanding of differences between themselves and others. Children thoroughly enjoy delivering harvest hampers to the local elderly care home. Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They ensure that their teaching and a high-quality range of toys and activities provide excellent challenge. Children make predictions and solve advanced mathematical problems as they respond to staff's probing questions.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Children are excited as they arrive and are immediately ready to learn in the highly stimulating indoor and outdoor areas. They behave exceptionally well and demonstrate kind and secure relationships with each other. Children confidently engage in social interactions with ease. They take turns to position wooden building blocks to create a large tower. Children have an excellent understanding of, and independently follow, a strict hygiene routine. Children enjoy healthy nutritious snacks. Staff keep an accurate record of what children have eaten to share with their parents. This helps parents to encourage children to try a wider range of foods at home. Children have superb opportunities to take part in physical exercise in the fresh air. They stretch up high as they paint water on the fence and perfect their balancing skills on large equipment.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

All children make very high levels of progress in their learning given their starting points. Children's independence is outstanding; they successfully manage their outdoor clothing with minimal support. They develop excellent literacy skills as they confidently link letters to sounds and make superb attempts to write their own name.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	146864
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	874923
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 3
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	32
<b>Name of provider</b>	Royston Community Association Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	8 February 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	07746011196 + 01763 230700

Rainbow Playgroup (Royston Community Assoc) was registered in 1988. It operates from Coombe Community Centre in Royston and is managed by a voluntary committee that is part of the Royston Community Association. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, 5 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The manager holds an early years foundation degree at level 5. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon. The playgroup provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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