

Galton Valley Children's Centre

Great Arthur Street, Smethwick, West Midlands, B66 1BA



Inspection date	23 October 2015
Previous inspection date	2 December 2014

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	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

- Since the last inspection considerable improvements have been made. The quality of teaching is now good. The premises are stimulating and vibrant, and children's creativity is now promoted very well.
- Children are enthused by the varied and interesting activities. They develop a great enthusiasm for learning, which is beneficial as they move on to school. Early literacy and mathematical skills are promoted well to help children develop essential skills in readiness for their future learning.
- The outdoor area has been redesigned, increasing and extending learning opportunities. This helps children who learn best outdoors to make good progress.
- There are strong relationships with the local school and children's centre. Important information is shared effectively, promoting continuity of care and learning for all children.
- Children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. They eat healthy snacks and enjoy regular physical exercise.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although several staff speak additional languages, occasionally some languages spoken by children are not fully incorporated into the setting. This means this group of children do not have every opportunity to make the best possible progress.
- Staff sometimes do not give children enough time to reflect and respond when they ask questions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- place further value on all home languages spoken by children, so that communication skills rapidly advance
- provide children with more time to think and respond to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching inside and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, including policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Well-qualified and experienced staff work hard to meet the needs of the children who attend. Staff access good quality coaching and training opportunities with the support of managers and teaching staff from the nearby school. This helps staff develop their professional skills and continuously improve their teaching and care practices. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust recruitment procedures, ongoing supervision and professional training ensure that all staff are suitable for their roles. All staff have a robust knowledge of child protection procedures and know how to respond if they have concerns about children's welfare. Good relationships with teachers at the schools children move on to means that children enjoy a smooth transition into the next stage of their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff track the progress made by each child and swiftly identify any gaps in their learning or development. Strong partnerships are in place with other agencies and professionals, and staff ensure the correct support is accessed for children. This helps to close any gaps promptly and enables all children to make good progress in all areas of learning. Children generally communicate well and are confident. They enjoy story time and listen avidly as staff link the story to real-life experiences. However, there are occasions when staff do not give children enough time to consider and respond to the questions that are posed. Children search in the garden for bugs and insects. They are fascinated by what they find and discuss their observations with staff and each other. This inspires their curiosity and promotes their interest in the wider world. Staff model language and help to extend children's vocabulary by introducing new words. However, not all languages that children use are well represented in the setting. Children are encouraged to count, compare size and solve number problems during their activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's independence is promoted well as they are encouraged to carry out tasks for themselves. They help themselves to drinks, serve themselves at mealtimes and help to clear away afterwards. Children learn about their local communities during outings and share different cultural celebrations throughout the year. Children behave well, take turns and are considerate and tolerant of one another. Their self-esteem is well promoted as staff regularly celebrate children's achievements. The newly arranged outdoor area is vibrant and attractive to children. Older children freely use this area extending their creative skills and knowledge of the world. Younger children have their own outdoor area which ensures their safety. Children are provided with healthy and nutritious snacks and meals. This contributes to their growing understanding of healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding for early education, make good progress from their starting points. Children are confident and make decisions for themselves. They develop secure literacy, language and mathematical skills. Children develop the skills and attitudes needed for the next stage in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY338976
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1000237
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	89
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Galton Valley Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2014
Telephone number	01215650993

Galton Valley Children's Centre is situated in purpose built premises in Smethwick, Sandwell. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

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