

Horsley Playgroup - (School site)

Horsley School, The Street, Horsley, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL6 0PU



Inspection date

4 November 2015

Previous inspection date

7 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Management is visionary and drives continuous improvement. The managers and staff are very clear about their roles and responsibilities. They implement carefully considered policies and procedures to ensure the safe management of the provision and to promote excellent outcomes for children.
- Staff provide an inspirational range of interesting and stimulating activities. This contributes to children being challenged and motivated to learn, and helps them to make excellent progress from their individual starting points.
- Children's well-being is fostered impressively. Their behaviour is excellent. They play cooperatively and learn to respect each other. Staff encourage and support this by providing children with positive praise and encouragement.
- The quality of teaching is extremely high and children's progress and achievements are consistently outstanding in all areas of learning.
- Children and their families are highly valued. Well-established partnerships with parents enhance knowledge the staff have of children's individual needs. Parents are actively engaged in their children's learning. They work collaboratively with staff to build on their children's interests and abilities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the partnership with the host school to do even more to create a smooth transfer for children when they move on to school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, the safeguarding policy and risk assessments.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked to staff, children and parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school supervisor.

Inspector

Liz Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Management ensures all staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibility to identify and report child protection concerns. The robust recruitment procedures help to ensure that the best possible staff are employed. Staff are supported by an effective programme of mentoring and training. The playgroup leader works with staff to promote their professional development, identifying ways to enhance their outstanding practice. The staff team reflects on the views of children and parents and they implement highly effective changes to help children to have the best start in their education. Some good partnership working takes place with the school Reception Class teacher to help familiarise children with the school environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is highly effective, especially in nurturing children's communication and language skills. Staff use observations of children's learning to accurately identify where they are in their development and to plan exceptionally well for their next stage of learning. Children are fascinated and motivated to learn, encouraged by positive interactions from staff. Staff use inspirational ways to challenge children in their learning. For example, staff encourage children to be imaginative using beads, gems, bottle tops and lollipop sticks to create interesting pictures inside a frame. Staff use excellent questioning and encouragement, particularly when getting children to solve problems independently. For example children were encouraged to mix corn flour and water to achieve a malleable consistency. Children worked out quickly what to do if the corn flour mixture was too runny.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are meticulous in meeting children's needs. They take time to get to know the children, and work extremely well with parents. There are very good arrangements to support children's emotional well-being when they start. Children build excellent relationships with each other; staff use activities and photographs of friends to build on this. The children thrive at the setting. The positive and caring relationships they have with staff help them to feel safe and secure. Each child is treated as an individual. Staff listen to children's views and support them to make simple decisions. Children's behaviour is exemplary; staff are consistent in helping children to share and take turns. Children learn about healthy foods and healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in their learning. They benefit from the exceptional support they receive and show high levels of confidence, even though many are new to the pre-school. Children gain the skills they need in preparation for school, such as outstanding independence and communication skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101770
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	824670
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	Horsley Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2012
Telephone number	01453833876

Horsley Playgroup (School Site) registered in 1998. It is one of two provisions run by the same voluntary management committee in the village of Horsley, near Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. The playgroup operates from Horsley Primary School. It operates on Wednesday afternoons in term time between 12.30pm and 3pm and receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. The playgroup leader has Early Years Professional Status and the deputy has Qualified Teacher Status; one member of staff has a level 3 qualification and another has a level 2 qualification.

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