

Dosthill Park Pre-School Playgroup

Dorcas Centre, off Blackwood Road, Tamworth, Staffordshire, B77 1JE



Inspection date

13 November 2015

Previous inspection date

16 January 2015

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

- Teaching is consistently good and children make good progress from their starting points. Staff provide an interesting and purposeful range of activities that capture the children's interest and imagination.
- Staff build strong relationships with children and their parents and carers from the start. There are good strategies in place to encourage parents to share what they know about their children to help them progress.
- Staff place a clear priority on promoting the children's emotional well-being and independence during the session. Children are happy and enjoy their time at the playgroup.
- The manager is clearly committed to securing improvement. There are well-focused improvement plans in place that provide a good level of challenge and ensure good improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Performance management is not used well enough to precisely identify aspects of staff practice that can be further improved to raise the quality of teaching even further.
- The youngest children are not fully encouraged to explore the range of activities on offer so that their learning is always promoted to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen teaching so that children's learning is promoted to the highest level
- increase the opportunities for the youngest children to explore and learn from the activities available.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Significant improvements have been made since the last inspection. The manager has enthusiasm and energy and makes accurate assessments of strengths and areas for development in the playgroup. Overall, staff benefit from targeted training to help improve the quality of play and learning experiences on offer. The manager carries out regular staff supervision to drive the quality of care and education forward. However, she does not currently focus precisely enough on the practice of individual members of staff so that they are supported to raise the quality of their teaching even further. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if they are concerned. The manager uses the assessment information well to identify any trends in children's learning. For example, the areas of learning in which children perform best and where they can raise achievement even higher.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and swiftly identify any children who are falling behind in their learning or who need additional support. This ensures all children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs, make good progress from their starting points. Staff use a good mix of small-group and whole-group sessions to help children actively learn, explore and discover. Staff creatively incorporate a good range of activities indoors and outdoors to promote the children's mathematical and literacy skills. Overall, teaching is consistently good. Older children confidently move around the environment and benefit from the full range of experiences on offer.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents report that they are provided with a good level information to help them understand how their children are progressing in relation to their age and stage of development. This helps parents to support their children's learning in preparation for their move to school. Staff provide clear guidance for children about what behaviour is acceptable and children respond well to these gentle reminders. Staff provide good opportunities for children to learn about how to keep safe and healthy eating. During snack time, children enjoy the healthy options available. In addition, children have the opportunity to be physically active outdoors. Children learn about themselves, their families, others and the wider community through well-planned activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well from their starting points and make good progress in all areas of learning. Staff work very closely with other professionals working with the children to help close any gaps in learning. Children with English as an additional language make good progress from the starting points and are well prepared for school. Children are keen to share their ideas and thoughts with staff and show good levels of concentration during activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218132
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1004221
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Dosthill Park Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2015
Telephone number	01827 260527

Dosthill Park Pre-School Playgroup opened in 1992. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12 noon and a lunch club runs from 12 noon to 1.45pm during term time only. The playgroup provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. There are nine staff employed and all hold a qualification between level 3 and level 6.

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