

3-2-4 Playgroup

The Portacabin, School Drive, Chandag Road, Keynsham, Bristol, BS31 1PQ



Inspection date	18 November 2015
Previous inspection date	7 July 2010

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

- Children enjoy playing with a good range of resources. Staff plan activities which build on children's interests and allow them to explore and investigate.
- Behaviour is good. Children make good progress in their personal and social development, and make friends easily.
- Staff make accurate assessments of children's progress and meet their needs by carefully planning the next steps in learning.
- Children learn about simple hygiene routines and ably manage their own personal needs.
- Positive relationships with parents support learning at home and prepare children well for their transfer to school.
- Safeguarding is effective. Staff are very caring. Children feel safe and form strong attachments to adults.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have enough challenge in activities to develop their skills to the fullest extent.
- Staff sometimes do too much for the children and do not always help them to play a part in daily routines.
- Self-evaluation is not always clearly focused on the areas identified for development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen self-evaluation so that it focuses on the areas identified for development
- provide children with challenging opportunities to develop their skills
- extend opportunities for children to develop independence and become actively involved in daily routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outside, and assessed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked to the children and held discussions with members of staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice with the leader of the playgroup.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Jennifer Cutler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Robust policies and regular staff training make sure that children's welfare is a high priority for staff. As a result, children feel secure and learn in a safe environment. Staff know the children well and are skilled at guiding their next steps in learning. They meet the needs of all children and have good links with parents, other settings, local schools and supporting agencies to promote continuity of care. Parents appreciate that staff prepare their children well for school. The small staff team works together well and brings a range of experience to the setting; for example, some have worked with children who have special needs. The leader monitors on an informal basis, but evaluations of the setting do not always focus on areas for development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make careful observations and accurate assessments of children's learning and development. They take swift action to seek professional help if a child has additional needs and, as a result, most children make good progress from their starting points. Staff do their utmost to ensure that children are happy, and understand well that children learn through play. However, they sometimes do too much for the children. For example, at snack time adults do most of the preparation for the children. Children build strong relationships with the adults and are keen learners who enjoy coming to playgroup.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Adults provide a welcoming environment for the children, who settle very quickly at playgroup. Children make friends very easily and show great confidence with others. They play and work well together and enjoy a joke. Staff are very good role models; children are polite, well mannered and their behaviour is very good. They are beginning to understand about healthy choices. For example, they can talk about healthy foods and undertake simple hygiene routines. Children enjoy playing outside and are confident because staff keep a watchful eye on their safety but also encourage them to take risks.?

Outcomes for children are good

Children are developing very good personal and social skills. Their confidence enables them to join in with the activities staff have planned for them and to thrive in a happy environment with adults they trust. They make good progress from their starting points and successfully develop the key skills they need for the next step in their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	132995
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	836348
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	3-2-4 Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2010
Telephone number	0117 9863290

3-2-4 Playgroup in Keynsham, Bristol, first opened in 1986. The playgroup operates from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday during term time only. Six members of staff work directly with the children; five hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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