Happy Hours Preschool Playgroup



Methodist Church, Brunswick Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5WB

Inspection date Previous inspection date		16 November 2015 21 November 2011	
The quality and standards of the	This inspecti	on: Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspe	ection: Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff work closely with families so that all children settle quickly, feel secure, and are relaxed and happy as they play.
- Staff are very good role models. They have high expectations of behaviour and explain these clearly. Children understand what they are, and are not, allowed to do and show respect and tolerance to others around them.
- Staff support children with additional needs particularly well. Strong partnership working with other professionals ensures that these children make very good progress.
- Children's outcomes are good. They have very close relationships with staff, which helps to support their learning. Staff are pleased to see them when they arrive and sit with them during their games. Children enjoy chatting with staff to share news from home. There is a very friendly atmosphere where everyone enjoys being together.
- Staff benefit from ongoing child protection training which means that they are confident and fully understand their responsibilities to protect children

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently ensure children build on what they already know to extend their learning further.
- Sometimes staff training is not always effective. Although staff generally know how children learn, they are not always helped to use their skills to extend children's understanding further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that staff use different ways to challenge and extend children's existing knowledge
- improve systems for training so that staff can identify and use their skills more fully to help children learn.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to several parents and looked at written feedback from others.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their role in safeguarding children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of activities with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector observed activities in all play areas, both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents including pre-school policies and procedures, staff records, information provided for parents, and children's learning and development records.

Inspector Rebecca Swindells

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager implements the requirements of early years well and has strong systems in place to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. She is a good role model and works alongside her staff to support them. The manager is keen to make the pre-school better. She encourages parents and visiting professionals to share their views and takes what they say into consideration. The manager has identified some areas for development, such as the provision for children with additional needs, and these have seen ongoing improvements over time. The manager checks children's progress and puts plans in place to close any potential gaps in learning. The manager also looks at the progress of different groups of children to ensure that all children are able to use the pre-school activities equally well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a wide range of resources for children to use both indoors and outdoors. Children decide where and how they play. Those who learn in different ways are able to do so. Staff join in games and children develop good communication skills. For example, they talk together during an imaginative game pretending to be doctors working in a hospital. Children chat as they measure soft toys to see if they have grown. Children enjoy using a variety of equipment that challenges their physical ability. Staff teach them how to play safely, take turns and share space fairly. Key persons make observations of their key children and work with parents and the manager to plan activities that generally help them improve.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children benefit from the warm relationships they enjoy with the adults that care for them. They like being with their friends and show kindness and respect to one another as they play. Staff teach children how to keep themselves healthy. They remind them to wash their hands before eating and when they come in from the garden. Children manage this with minimal adult help. Staff effectively prepare children for school by encouraging this independence and confidence. Staff work very well with teachers, sharing information that will help children to make a smooth transition to school. Key persons work very closely with their key children and their families. This means that children are effectively supported by adults who understand their emotional needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress, from their starting points, in their language and mathematical skills. Children with additional needs make better than expected progress. Older children are well prepared for school as they are confident and independent. All children communicate well and have good social skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430854	
Local authority	West Sussex	
Inspection number	822802	
Type of provision	Full-time provision	
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic	
Age range of children	2 - 4	
Total number of places	30	
Number of children on roll	43	
Name of provider	Karen Margaret Singpo	
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2011	
Telephone number	01273 597581	

Happy Hours Preschool Playgroup opened in 1971 and re-registered in 2011. It operates from the Methodist Church in Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.50am to 11.50am, with a lunch club from 11.50 am to 12.50pm, for 38 weeks of the year. The pre-school has funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs nine members of staff and five hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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