

# Saxon Green Playgroup

St Francis Church Hall, Saxon Green, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 4JA



## Inspection date

9 December 2015

Previous inspection date

28 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

- Staff are well qualified and their teaching skills are strong. They make good use of the accurate information they obtain from observations to find out what children can do, in order to effectively plan for the next steps in their learning.
- Children behave well. They take turns and share toys well with one another. Staff are very good examples for children. They consistently adopt a friendly and respectful approach when dealing with both adults and children.
- The manager and committee are committed to reviewing the practice of the playgroup and evaluating the service that they provide. The manager has identified the right priorities to make sure that the playgroup continues to improve.
- Staff work well with parents and involve them in their children's learning. This contributes to promoting good outcomes for children. Parents report that two-way communication is good and they praise the staff for their patience, dedication and friendliness.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's knowledge of their bodies and how they work, to aid their understanding.
- Children's interest in writing is not always encouraged as well as it could be in some activities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's understanding of how exercise can benefit their health
- help children make quicker progress in gaining language and literacy skills in some of their activities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff and the manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at samples of documentation, including policies, staff and committee suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector reviewed the playgroup's self-evaluation and action plans.
- The inspector spoke to some parents on the day of inspection, to gain their views.

### Inspector

Katherine Lamb

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a good understanding of early years requirements. She and the staff have high expectations and are committed to promoting good quality provision for children and their parents. They have successfully addressed the actions from the last inspection. Safeguarding is effective. Staff's knowledge of the procedure they would follow if they had concerns about a child's welfare is secure. Staff have regular training and supervision meetings to update and refresh their knowledge and understanding. They have introduced joint committee and parent coffee mornings as a result of recent joint training. The manager monitors children's progress well. This identifies any gaps in learning for individual children, including disabled children and those who have special educational needs. Support plans help close gaps in children's learning quickly.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The qualified staff team knows children well and teaches them effectively. Staff use regular observations of children's learning to plan appropriate activities that support their development. Staff play alongside children and understand how to build on what they already know, in order to further their learning in most areas. Children show an increasing awareness of counting and are encouraged to think about the value of numbers during different games. Children use tablet computers in various ways with confidence. They draw pictures or play matching games to aid their learning. Staff skilfully build on children's interests to help them develop their speaking skills. They discuss different items for sale in their role play shop as well as the insects they may find in the garden. Staff also carry out focused communication activities for children who need additional help to develop their speech.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children like the supportive relationship with the playgroup staff. Staff have high expectations of children. They are consistent in their approach to managing children's behaviour, which is good. Children understand what acceptable behaviour is and respond well to the positive praise offered by all staff. Staff encourage children to be independent and make choices. They listen to children's views and value their opinions. Children select from a range of healthy snacks, which they help to prepare. Staff understand the importance of regular physical activity and plan daily opportunities for children to engage in physical play, both indoors and outdoors.

### Outcomes for children are good

Staff have a good knowledge of their key children's development. They support children well during activities. All children make good progress in their language, communication, number and physical skills, given their starting points and capabilities. They are well prepared for their next stage of education.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	142904
<b>Local authority</b>	Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	1005382
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	23
<b>Name of provider</b>	Saxon Green Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28 January 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	07751048275

Saxon Green Playgroup registered in 1973 and operates from St Francis Church Hall in Bridgwater, Somerset. It is run by a voluntary management committee of parents. The playgroup opens five days per week during school term times only. Sessions are from 9am to 12 noon, and afternoon sessions operate on Monday from 12.15pm to 3.15pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are four members of staff, of whom three have early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds an early years qualification at level 2.

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