

Kirkby Mallory Pre-School Playgroup

The Old School Room, Church Road, Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire, LE9 7QE



Inspection date	10 December 2015
Previous inspection date	29 November 2011

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

- The long-standing staff team clearly identify the pre-school's strengths and areas for improvement. Parents are effectively involved in the self-evaluation process. Staff are keen and motivated to provide a high-quality service to children and their families.
- Children share very warm relationships with their key person. Their emotional security is successfully enhanced. Settling-in procedures are agreed with parents on an individual basis. Both the children and their parents are supported by the staff as they begin to separate from one another.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Excellent channels of communication ensure that all parents are effectively informed about all aspects of their children's care and learning.
- The children in this pre-school are very happy, they have lots of fun and truly relish the variety of learning experiences on offer. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual interests and what they need to do next to continue to make sure children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children who prefer to play outdoors are not always able to follow their interests.
- At times, staff do tasks for the children that they could easily do for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors to follow their own interests
- extend children's skills in becoming fully independent as they begin to do tasks for themselves.

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 joint observations with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Lapworth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The staff team effectively work together, creating a calm and well-organised approach to the service they provide. Staff are equally well supported by their manager to further progress in their own professional development. Staff attend training and share good practice successfully with one another. Safeguarding arrangements are effective, with senior staff attending a higher level of child protection training. All staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in identifying child abuse and the reporting procedures they must follow in the event of a concern. Staff are knowledgeable about working with children with special educational needs. Strong partnership working with other professionals ensures children get the support they need. All parents strongly express how happy they are with the service they receive. They especially appreciate the warm relationships the staff share with their children and the great variety of experiences on offer.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff team is passionate about providing children with stimulating and challenging experiences, coupled with enjoyment and fun. Staff observe the children as they play and complete detailed observations of what children know and can do. Very effective arrangements are in place to share this information with parents and to plan for the next steps in children's learning. Small-group time provides opportunities for children to listen, share, wait and take turns. Equality and diversity is fully embraced. Children begin to learn about different cultural festivals, such as Diwali, when making celebration lamps and large Rangoli patterns in sand. They also act out characters, such as angels and kings, when learning about the story of Christmas. Mathematics is supported very well. Children learn about matching objects to numbers and build small towers to show they understand the difference in numbers one to five.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play in a relaxed and calm environment and their behaviour is good. Staff successfully support them in understanding the difference between right and wrong. Children are valued and feel good about themselves. Staff take every opportunity to praise the children for a job well done. They receive praise for using good manners and respecting one another. The children confidently relate to each other and many have developed strong friendships. Children have opportunities to access the outdoor play area every day. Physical activities include balancing on beams, playing musical instruments in a den and pretending to cook with cones and conkers. Children learn to understand the importance of good handwashing.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. They are beginning to acquire good skills to support them as they move on to school. They have many opportunities to develop their personal and social skills. Children are helped to become confident communicators with adults, children and visitors to the pre-school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	226425
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	864378
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Kirkby Mallory Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	29 November 2011
Telephone number	01455 850848

Kirkby Mallory Pre-School Playgroup was registered in 1998. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am to 12 noon on Mondays and Fridays, 9am to 3pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 9am to 1pm on Wednesdays. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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