

Ashwick and Oakhill Playgroup

Village Hall, Zion Hill, Oakhill, BA3 5AN



Inspection date	15 January 2016
Previous inspection date	6 March 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 form strong and supportive partnerships with parents. Children benefit from a shared approach to their learning between home and the playgroup. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- The manager uses self-evaluation successfully to bring about positive changes to benefit children. She targets improvements effectively; this has had a very positive impact on the quality of teaching and learning since the last inspection.
- Staff create a positive environment where children treat each other kindly and with respect. Children understand what staff expect of them. They are happy and settled, and consistently behave well.
- Staff use their observations of individual children's learning well, to plan and provide, challenging activities and experiences, to help children achieve their next steps in learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, during craft activities, staff miss opportunities to encourage children to explore a wide range of media and materials to help them express their creative ideas.
- At snack time, some children are kept waiting for long periods before they can eat. This wastes children's time because they are sitting or standing in line rather than learning through play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to explore a wide range of media and materials, to help them express their own ideas and develop further their creative skills
- review the snack time routine so that children do not have to wait for long periods of time before eating.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and the quality of their interactions with children, inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including children's learning journals.
- The inspector spoke with parents and considered their views.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Angela Cogan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff understand child protection issues and safeguarding procedures, and take their responsibilities seriously. The manager monitors staff performance through regular and effective supervision meetings, and formal observations of staff practice. The manager has improved her skills since the last inspection; she is committed to raising the quality of interactions between staff and children, and is good at identifying staff training needs. Since recent training, staff have improved provision for children with additional needs and this has had a positive impact on children's experiences. The manager and her team use their experience well; they plan interesting activities in response to children's strengths and interests, and this helps children make consistently good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff and management make evaluative observations and assessments of children's achievements and track their development effectively. Staff understand the different ways in which children learn, providing resources that appeal to children's interests. For example, children enjoy using toy trucks to shift sand into large hills, developing their physical skills as they play. Children have lots of opportunities to develop their early reading and writing skills, and this helps them prepare for school. For example, children use telephones, keyboards and notepads, and pretend to write messages as they play. Staff watch children and are good at extending their ideas. Children benefit from this and make good progress in their learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children build strong attachments with staff and good friendships with each other. There is an effective key-person system and staff ensure learning experiences are tailored for each child. This is particularly positive for children with additional needs. Staff have well-established partnerships with parents and other settings children attend, to help provide continuity in children's experiences at playgroup and at home. Management and staff encourage children to develop their self-help skills. For example, children learn to put on and take off different items of clothing from a large collection of dressing-up clothes. Children work cooperatively and solve problems together. Children benefit from the use of a large playing field and outside area; they go on local trips and get plenty of fresh air and exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Outcomes for children have improved since the last inspection. Children are confident and happy; they are engaged and involved in the activities on offer, and develop positive attitudes towards learning. Children develop key skills for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142969
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1009163
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	Ashwick and Oakhill Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2015
Telephone number	07870 672996

Ashwick and Oakhill Playgroup registered in 1982 and operates in Oakhill, Somerset. The playgroup is open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings during term time. Sessions run from 9.30am to 1pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup employs five members of staff; of these, one holds Early Years Professional Status and two hold relevant early years qualifications, one at level 2 and two at level 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

