Mayflower Playgroup

Christ Church, New England Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3LE

Inspection date	26 January 2016
Previous inspection date	8 November 2011

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

- The staff work very well together and provide exceptionally strong role models for children. They provide a welcoming and nurturing environment. Children learn to value, respect one another and build extremely positive relationships.
- The manager and her team continually reflect upon the comments and suggestions made by parents, children and other professionals in order to strengthen their practice.
- Children enjoy a good range of stimulating activities indoors and outdoors. They are motivated and engaged in their learning and make good progress.
- Children are familiar with the daily routines. Staff are exceptionally skilled at supporting children's emotional needs. Children are extremely settled, happy and confident.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff gather a range of information about children's learning and interests from home to develop a shared approach to learning. Parents are very complimentary about the playgroup.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not fully developed the monitoring systems to precisely track all children's progress to help them make even greater progress.
- Sometimes, staff do not fully build on children's play to further challenge and extend their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the already good monitoring processes to precisely identify children's achievements and use these to raise outcomes for children from good to outstanding
- build further on children's interests and ideas to extend and challenge their learning.

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 took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and viewed a sample of documentation, such as assessment records and the suitability of staff to work at the nursery.

Inspector
Eve Lumb

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and know how to report any concerns. They complete daily risk assessments to help keep children safe. The manager supports the staff well. She regularly meets with them to discuss their practice and training needs. Staff attend training courses to develop their professional development and practice even further. The manager is very committed to providing a good-quality service to the children and their families. She regularly seeks the views of parents, staff, children and other professionals to help improve outcomes for children. Staff have good links with local schools and encourage teachers to come and meet the children before they start school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their observations of children to make accurate assessments on their learning and development. Parents regularly contribute to this assessment process and share their children's interests to help support planning for the next steps in their learning. Overall, staff provide a good range of stimulating activities to meet children's needs and extend their learning. For example, while children play with a range of blocks and boxes, staff introduce mathematical language to help children develop an awareness of shapes, sizes and quantities. Older children recognise the letters in their names and help to write their own names on their pictures. These skills help to prepare children for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide an exemplary role model for children. Gentle prompts and the use of visual reminders help all children to understand how to maintain positive relationships with one another. All children behave exceptionally well. Staff provide a very welcoming environment. Children confidently access the range of resources available to them and lead their own play. Children are very secure in the relationships they have with staff and benefit from excellent emotional support at all times. Children know to wash their hands before eating and demonstrate an ability to keep themselves and others safe. For example, they know to take turns in more physically active play. Staff skilfully encourage children to manage their own personal needs independently.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent, confident and engaged in their learning, and so make good progress from their starting points. All children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113597
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	825042
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	32
Number of children on roll	46
Name of provider	Mayflower Playgroup, Haywards Heath Committee
Date of previous inspection	8 November 2011
Telephone number	07713 117878

Mayflower Playgroup registered in 1992. It operates from Christ Church, in Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The playgroup is open five days a week during term times, from 9.15am to 12.15pm. Afternoon lunch-club sessions are also run for older children during the summer term. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs nine staff members, including the manager, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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