

Fairfield Playbox

Methodist Church Hall, Fairfield South, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2UJ



Inspection date	27 January 2016
Previous inspection date	1 July 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

- Staff support children with additional needs and those learning English as an additional language really well. They work effectively with parents, outside agencies and other early years settings to have a consistent approach.
- Children achieve well in the key areas of their development. This prepares them well for the next stages of their learning. Staff teach children well and help them make good progress.
- Children learn good strategies to manage their behaviour. Staff help them understand their feelings and to develop positive relationships with others. Children value each other's differences and gain a positive awareness of diversity.
- The managers have good systems to monitor children's development, identify any gaps and close them quickly.
- The co-managers work well as a team. They understand their responsibilities and provide good supervision for staff. They use self-evaluation effectively to reflect on their practice, seek parents' views and set appropriate actions to drive improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The environment for learning does not always motivate or stimulate children to be highly imaginative in their role play.
- Staff do not seek comprehensive information from parents on children's development from the start, to have a full picture of their starting points straight away to help them with their planning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the environment to inspire and motivate children's high levels of imagination
- increase the information gained from parents on children's development at entry to the pre-school, to inform planning from the onset.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector talked to staff, parents and children. She held a meeting with the co-managers and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector took account of the pre-school's self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the safety of the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team has a good understanding of its responsibilities to protect children's welfare. Safeguarding is effective. Staff implement the policies and procedures well to keep children safe. They attend training and have a good knowledge of what to do should a child be at risk of harm. The new co-manager has a clear vision and is implementing an effective action plan to raise the quality of teaching further. For example, she is developing the planning to give children more time to revisit and extend their learning. Staff have good opportunities to attend training and continue their professional development to ensure good-quality outcomes for children. Managers keep staff up to date with changes to legislation.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff teach children effectively as they play and during planned group activities. There are good opportunities for children to learn about the world around them. For example, children notice the wind blowing the windmills and listen to it making the chimes ring. Staff listen well to children and give them time to think and respond. They help children to gain good communication skills. Children enjoy fun games that help them speak clearly. They listen attentively to stories, predict what will happen next and recall the narrative afterwards. Children enthusiastically join in with action songs. Staff use their observations of children's learning effectively to plan for their individual next stages of development. They share good information with parents to enable them to support learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have strong relationships with staff and are settled, happy and confident. The effective key-person system ensures staff know each child and their families really well. Staff are sensitive to children's emotional and physical needs. They help them develop the skills they need to work with others, behave well and resolve any conflict. Staff notice runny noses and encourage children to learn to wipe them so they have good hygiene practices to protect their health. Overall, staff provide a wide range of resources that children can select independently to make full use of the whole environment. For example, children have quiet spaces to concentrate and room to develop their control and coordination on large equipment. Children understand the need to keep safe and the expectations of staff, such as waiting their turn to use the climbing frame.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and staff prepare them well for school. For example, they help children become independent, to communicate well and have a positive attitude to learning. Children gain early writing skills and recognise numbers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131796
Local authority	Kingston upon Thames
Inspection number	840875
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 - 3
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	Kingston Methodist Church Committee
Date of previous inspection	1 July 2011
Telephone number	020 8546 3213

Fairfield Playbox opened approximately 45 years ago and operates from Kingston Methodist Church Hall at Fairfield South in Kingston, Surrey. The pre-school is open Tuesday to Friday between 9.30am and 12pm, during term time only. They receive funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff, including the two joint managers. One of the managers has Early Years Professional Status and the rest of the staff hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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