

Norristhorpe Playgroup

United Reform Church, Lodge Lane, Norristhorpe, Liversedge, West Yorkshire, WF15 7PG



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

4 February 2016

15 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

- Leaders and managers review the educational programmes and monitor children's progress. They use feedback from parents, staff and children to develop actions plans. Staff work well together. Actions taken to maintain the good quality of the provision are well planned and effective.
- Staff make regular assessments of children's learning. They use the information they gather to effectively plan suitably challenging activities for children. Children are engaged well and motivated to learn.
- There are good systems in place to support links between the playgroup and home. Parents are fully involved in monitoring their children's development. They help staff identify children's starting points. They are kept well informed about their children's progress and are involved in planning for future learning. They receive high levels of support to continue children's learning at home.
- Managers and key persons complete visits with children at home prior to them starting in the playgroup. They gather information about their family, interests and preferences for learning. When children enter the setting, they already have a familiar adult who has a good understanding of their individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for performance management of staff are not yet sharply focused to help them raise their teaching skills to a higher standard.
- Children do not always have opportunities become highly involved in activities and time to be creative and think in more depth.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide professional development opportunities that support all staff to strengthen their good quality teaching skills
- enable children to become highly involved in their activities and give them sufficient opportunities and time to be creative and think.

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 a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including the playgroup's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers have a good understanding of the early years requirements. Safeguarding is effective. Secure recruitment procedures check that staff are suitable for their role. Staff have a good awareness of child protection issues and know the procedures to follow to report any concerns about children or an adult. The premises are secure and well maintained. The staff team is experienced and has appropriate early years qualifications. They use their knowledge to deliver a varied educational programme that promotes children's good progress in all areas. Regular evaluation of the playgroup identifies areas for improvement. One example of this is that they have identified that mathematics was not being promoted as well as it could be. They have focused on mathematics and children's progress in this area has improved. The playgroup has strong partnerships with other professionals to share appropriate information about children and support continuity of care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. Children enjoy leading their own play most of the time and exploring. Young children enjoy sensory play as they splash in water and bubbles. Staff help older children to question and think critically. For example, one question they explored was, 'Why does water flow through a funnel, but bubbles do not?' Children enjoy learning about technology. Amongst other things, they use telephones to take orders in their pretend restaurant and use credit cards to make payments. They develop their mathematical skills as they learn about prices and give change. Children begin to recognise familiar letters as they share stories and read menus. They use their early writing skills to make lists and write orders. Communication and language are promoted throughout. Children learning English as an additional language are supported in a variety of ways, including sign language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents comment they admire the commitment that staff give to their roles. Children's well-being is given priority. Their achievements are recognised and shared. They make strong friendships and are very well prepared for school. Staff support children's developing independence well. Children learn to dress themselves and use the toilet independently. They develop their physical skills well and learn to play safely. They climb, slide and balance as they use large-play equipment in the playgroup garden. Children's home backgrounds and cultures are fully promoted. Staff help children to recognise that they have similarities and differences.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well in all areas of learning given their individual starting points. Funding is used effectively to target children's individual needs. The gaps for all children are narrowing. Children develop a wide range of skills which helps to contribute to them being well prepared for their future learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311341
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	864990
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	26
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	Norristhorpe Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 November 2011
Telephone number	01924 407755

Norristhorpe Playgroup was registered in 1972. It employs eight members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The playgroup opens Mondays from 9am until 12 noon, and Tuesday to Friday from 9am until 3.15pm during term time only. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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