

St Brendans Parish Playgroup

St. Brendans Catholic Primary School, Beanfield Avenue, Corby, Northamptonshire,
NN18 0AZ



Inspection date	20 January 2016
Previous inspection date	15 June 2015

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

- Since the last inspection the leaders and managers have increased their knowledge of safeguarding procedures and reviewed their practice specifically in relation to notifying Ofsted of changes to the committee.
- Staff are effective in their teaching. They know children well, planning for their individual interests. This results in children being motivated to join in with activities that help them to learn.
- Children are learning about the expectations for behaviour. The staff team works well together, with a consistent approach which helps children to understand the boundaries.
- Parents speak in a positive and complimentary way about how the staff work with them and their children. They say how approachable the staff are and that their children are making good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, during group activities the activities are not planned precisely enough to capture the attention of all children taking part.
- Although the management team monitor individual children's progress, they do not yet effectively monitor the progress of different groups of children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the planning of group activities to ensure that they are meaningful and positive for all children taking part
- make better use of information from assessment to check the progress made by different groups of children so that all children achieve well and make as much progress as possible.

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, the bursar and with two members of staff. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the playgroups self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is supported well by the committee. She and the staff team work well together, in a reflective way, to ensure they continue to meet the needs of children and their families. They discuss and evaluate the activities each day. This results in children's ideas and suggestions being responded to quickly. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust procedures for recruitment and performance management of the staff ensures that they are suitable and are able to continue to develop their knowledge. Staff complete training in safeguarding which ensures they know how to keep children safe and promote their welfare. Good partnerships with the local children's centre results in families receiving the help they need. Detailed information is gathered to assess the progress that individual children are making. This is shared with parents and used in the planning to identify what children need to do next. However, the systems to monitor the progress of different groups of children are still being developed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff's interaction with children is positive and encouraging. This helps to promote children's confidence to get involved in activities and to try new experiences. Staff demonstrate effective teaching skills. They show them how things work and help children to explore their own ideas while talking to them and extending their communication and language skills. The daily routine mostly supports children's learning well. However, during group times the activities provided do not fully engage or capture all children. Children are able to access their own records of achievement and enjoy recalling events from the past, talking animatedly about their friends and previous activities. Staff are effective in assessing children's progress and value information from parents, using this to plan for their children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children arrive happily and quickly settle to their chosen activities. They show that they feel confident at the playgroup as they find their friends and choose when to have their snack. They ask staff to read stories and are encouraged to be creative during art and craft activities. Staff support children to learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Children enthusiastically get ready for outside play, talking about the cold weather. They enjoy a good variety of snacks and drinks. Children understand the daily routines and the expectations for washing their hands before eating. Children learn about keeping themselves safe through discussions with the staff. They work together well to tidy up at the end of the session.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in relation to their ability and starting points. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and for starting school. They make choices and decisions about what they do during the day. Children are encouraged to be independent as they dress themselves ready for outside play and serve themselves at snack time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220068
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1017804
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	30
Name of provider	St Brendan's Parish Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2015
Telephone number	01536 401898

St Brendans Parish Playgroup was registered in 1992. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 2 and 5. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3.15pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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