

Harold Wood Methodist Church Pre School Playgroup

The Drive, Harold Wood, Romford, Essex, RM3 0DU



Inspection date

2 March 2016

Previous inspection date

17 January 2011

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|--|----------------------|-------------|---|
| | Previous inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Outcomes for children | | Outstanding | 1 |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The committee and manager are committed to providing the highest quality experiences for all children. They make sure that each child's needs, whatever their background, are thoroughly understood and met to an exceptionally high standard. They have continued to develop the playgroup to sustain its excellent standards.
- Children play in an exciting environment and are fully engrossed in their learning. Children make excellent progress and confidently develop the skills they need for their future learning. Children's behaviour is exemplary.
- Staff place an extremely sharp focus on helping all children to acquire and extend their communication and language skills. Children who are learning English as an additional language make rapid progress.
- Relationships are excellent. Children develop extremely strong attachments to their key person. New children settle quickly when they start to attend the nursery and rapidly grow in confidence.
- The partnerships with parents are excellent. The staff involve parents in their children's learning. For example, parents borrow books from the playgroup's library to use with their children at home. Parents say that they are extremely pleased with the very high standard of care and education that their children receive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich literacy experiences for those children who prefer to play outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and their daily routines.
- The inspector spoke with the children, the staff and the manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled the children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff to work with children, and other documents, including written policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents who were spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Claire Nunn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The committee and manager actively seek the views of staff, parents, children and outside professionals to successfully improve the playgroup. They have carefully targeted plans for development. For example, they recognise that they need to do more to improve children's literacy development, particularly for children who prefer to learn outside, and plan to convert an old shed into a 'literacy den'. The manager places an excellent focus on the professional development of herself and her staff. She checks the children's progress across the provision and plans training specifically to develop particular teaching skills, such as promoting toddlers' investigative play to extend practice. The manager works closely with other managers to share excellent practice. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent understanding of how to protect the children from harm. They are vigilant about children's welfare and safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff assess children's progress accurately and provide highly stimulating activities to promote children's learning and development. They focus extremely well on helping children who have special educational needs to catch up, and they constantly challenge the most capable children. Staff are exceptionally responsive to children's interests and extend their thinking, imaginative play and language skills successfully. Exceptional teaching prepares the children extremely well with valuable skills for school. For example, children competently make their own playdough; they think out what ingredients to use and predict what will happen during the process.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff make their extremely high expectations for children's behaviour clear. They use successful strategies, such as a 'praise rainbow', to motivate children's positive behaviour, and parents report that they find this approach works well at home. The children show great respect for others. Children play in a richly resourced environment that entices them to explore; for example, they delight in mixing purple sand, soil and glue to find out what happens. Staff promote children's good health and understanding of healthy lifestyles extremely well. Children actively seek comfort and reassurance from their key person when needed, knowing that the staff are kind and very supportive. Older children express their emotions, including any concerns about starting school.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress from their starting points. All children flourish, including those who are funded, those who are learning English as an additional language and the most able. Children are confident, enthusiastic learners. They make many decisions independently, such as when to have a snack or what to wear outside.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Unique reference number | 118541 |
| Local authority | Havering |
| Inspection number | 825184 |
| 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 | 50 |
| Number of children on roll | 49 |
| Name of provider | Harold Wood Methodist Church Pre-School Playgroup Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 17 January 2011 |
| Telephone number | 01708 342420 |

Harold Wood Methodist Church Pre-School Playgroup is located in the Harold Wood area of Hornchurch, Essex. It is open each weekday from 9am until 2pm on Mondays and Fridays, from 9am until 12 noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 9am until 2.45pm on Wednesdays. It operates during school terms. The committee receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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