

St John's Playgroup

St Johns C E Junior & Infant School, Leymoor Road, Golcar, HUDDERSFIELD, HD7 4QQ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

7 March 2016

12 November 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Due to an administrative oversight, Ofsted have not been informed of all recently appointed committee members. However, Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been completed for these people.
- Staff overlook opportunities to promote children's understanding of how time can be measured.

It has the following strengths

- The playgroup is proactive in developing successful partnerships with parents, other providers and outside agencies. There is an effective shared approach to improving outcomes for children.
- The progress of groups of children is scrutinised to identify any gaps in their learning or weaknesses in teaching practice. An effective programme of professional development helps staff to continually build on their good quality teaching skills.
- Children are given time to immerse themselves in exploration and play. They concentrate well. Staff continually reshape tasks to maintain their interest.
- Children's communication and language are very well promoted. All children are confident and demonstrate a high level of skill. They initiate conversations with their friends and staff, build their own stories and share their own first-hand experiences.
- Systems for transition both into the playgroup and into the school are effective. Detailed information about children's care and development is obtained and shared. Staff fully understand that some children need more emotional support than others. Children settle quickly and soon become confident.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's understanding of how time can be measured in simple ways to extend their understanding of mathematical concepts.

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 who is also the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including the playgroup's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a parent and a childminder during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider has not notified Ofsted that there have been changes to the individuals who make up the playgroup's committee. However, Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been completed. The committee's role is to oversee finance and fundraise. They do not work directly with the children, do not make policy decisions and are not responsible for the recruitment of staff. This means there is no significant impact on children's safety and welfare. Safeguarding is effective. All other policies and procedures are implemented effectively. Staff understand their role in child protection and are confident in the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedure to follow should they have a concern. The provider reviews the educational programmes and monitors staff's performance. She uses additional funding effectively to support children's individual learning needs. She seeks the views of parents and takes into account their suggestions when making changes. Other providers commented to the inspector, 'We have a wonderful working relationship'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy a wide range of motivating learning experiences that captures their interest. They enjoy learning about weights and measures using soil and water. Staff ask children questions that encourage them to think critically. One example of this is staff ask children if they can guess whether a bowl of wet mud will be heavy or light. Staff talk to children about time but do not explore with them how it can be measured. Children's literacy skills are promoted. They read instructions, share stories and develop early writing skills. Staff recognise that younger children sometimes need higher levels of support for their learning. Staff continually challenge children to build on their skills and learn more. Parents are kept very well informed about their child's achievements. They also attend play sessions with their children. They find out how their children's learning is promoted, helping them to continue learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The playgroup is welcoming and lively. Children enjoy time in the fresh air each day and have regular physical education sessions in the school hall. They take managed risks while using large equipment. This helps them to learn how to keep themselves safe. Staff involve children in everyday routines. Children enjoy the sense of responsibility and this helps to prepare them for school. Good health and hygiene practices are promoted. Children learn about the world around them through a wide range of activities. An example of this is through monitoring the life cycles of creatures that live in the school pond. Parents attend the playgroup to share their home traditions. This helps children to understand about the wider world and that not all families are the same as their own.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's developing independence is supported well. They capably make choices and initiate their own learning. Staff teach children to use good manners, listen to and respect the views of others and develop strong friendships. Children make good progress from their starting points, helping them to attain the skills they need for their future learning in school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311284
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	855280
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	St John's Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2008
Telephone number	07976650452

St John's Playgroup was registered in 1984. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45pm every morning, and on Mondays and Tuesdays from 12.45pm until 3.15pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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