

Broome and Ditchingham Playgroup

Ditchingham Village Hall, Loddon Road, Ditchingham, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 2RA



Inspection date

9 March 2016

Previous inspection date

9 July 2013

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

- The committee, manager and staff team are committed to providing children with high-quality care and education. They have high expectations of what the playgroup can achieve. The manager continually monitors the playgroup to robustly check on the quality of the provision. The actions and recommendations raised at the last inspection have been successfully addressed.
- Staff carefully organise the environment so that children enjoy free access to a very wide range of toys and resources. Children are motivated and eager to learn through play. They make good progress in readiness for school.
- Staff's assessment of what children know and can do is accurate and completed regularly. They get to know the children well and plan activities which are interesting, present challenge and help children to achieve their next steps in learning.
- Partnership working with parents is good. Staff effectively engage with parents to support children's learning in the playgroup and at home.
- Staff effectively support children to be emotionally prepared for their move to school. They plan events, such as visits to the local school, and invite teachers to the playgroup, to help ensure that the move to school is seamless for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not always provide children with sufficient time to think for themselves and extend their critical-thinking skills.
- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to enhance children's early reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich children's critical-thinking skills further, giving them more time to think about and formulate their own ideas that arise from their play and learning
- enhance opportunities for children to further develop their early reading skills.

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 spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the provider and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the playgroup's self-evaluation, records of children's learning and development, a selection of policies and procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The well-qualified manager provides strong leadership for a highly effective staff team. There are effective systems for monitoring staff performance and supervision. Staff take every opportunity to extend their knowledge and acquire new skills. They share their new learning within the staff team. This contributes towards effective changes in practice and has a positive impact on children's learning and development. Staff have a thorough set of policies and procedures to support their good practice. These are updated regularly and shared with parents. There are good systems in place for monitoring the progress of groups of children. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified and addressed. Additional funding is spent effectively to help promote the development of children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand their role in protecting children from harm. They are fully aware of what to do should they have any concerns about children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather information from parents when children first start, in order to support children effectively and help ensure they settle quickly. Children experience a wide range of opportunities to learn across all areas as they move around confidently choosing what they would like to do next. Staff are skilful in following children's interests. Children enjoy exploring how things feel as they eagerly investigate different textures with their hands, such as rice and blocks of ice. Staff interact purposefully with the children and provide effective support, modelling play well. Staff ensure that children make good progress from their starting points. They share accurate assessments with parents, so that they know how well their children are progressing. Parents' evenings provide opportunities to discuss children's progress in more depth. Staff identify where extra individual support may be required and work with parents to help them seek support swiftly.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children build secure emotional attachments with all staff. They happily play alongside staff, who are responsive and show care. Children are happy, settled and thoroughly enjoy their time at the playgroup. Staff are good role models and manage children's behaviour effectively. They are calm and praise the children appropriately throughout the session. Staff pay close attention to health and safety. They are vigilant and complete daily checks during the sessions to ensure a safe and secure environment for children. Children follow good hygiene routines. They experience sociable mealtimes where they sit alongside their peers and staff. Children have daily opportunities for exercise and fresh air, which helps to promote their good health and supports their physical well-being. They go on walks in the local environment and enjoy playing in the large garden in all weathers.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school. They learn how to share and take turns, and develop their personal-care skills, such as putting on their own boots before playing outside. Children have many opportunities to develop their early writing skills and recognise numbers. All children make good progress in their learning, given their starting points and capabilities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253980
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1028774
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	14
Name of provider	Broome and Ditchingham Playgroup
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2013
Telephone number	07721 697 974

Broome and Ditchingham Playgroup opened in 1974. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff and two bank staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The playgroup opens from Tuesday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm. An additional session runs on Wednesday afternoons from 12.15pm until 3.15pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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