

Christ Church Playgroup

Christ Church Church Hall, Woodside Crescent, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7JJ



Inspection date

21 March 2016

Previous inspection date

28 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- There is an effective key-person system, which helps the children to be happy and well settled. Staff act as good role models. Relationships between staff and children are good, and they treat each other with respect.
- The manager is motivated and strives to offer a high-quality service. She continuously reviews the policies and procedures to help ensure that staff are kept updated on changes in legislation.
- All children are confident and independent learners. They benefit from the good organisation of the learning environment inside and outside. For example, this enables children to make their own choices about where they play and what they choose to do.
- Staff have good relationships with parents. They encourage parents' involvement in the pre-school and keep them well informed about their children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff professional development is not always focused fully on specifically targeting and strengthening outstanding teaching skills to further improve the outcomes for children.
- Staff do not always allow children enough time to gather their thoughts and respond to their questions to fully extend the children's vocabularies and conversation skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the existing arrangements for performance monitoring and professional development to enhance staff's expertise and teaching skills even further
- consistently give children enough time to think about and form their responses to the questions they are asked.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a variety of activities throughout the playgroup, including the outdoor areas.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documents, including children's development records, safeguarding procedures, staff suitability and professional development records.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the playgroup with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Angela Sharp

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and policies and procedures to help ensure the safety and well-being of children. The manager leads the staff effectively and supports them well overall in their roles. Children are able to explore their environment comfortably and safely. For example, staff carry out risk assessments each day that include all areas used by the children. The manager evaluates the provision and identifies areas to improve outcomes for children. For example, the manager identified the need to increase children's skills in making choices and to focus more on engaging boys more in learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their experience and knowledge effectively to support children with their next steps in learning. They regularly observe and track children's progress and plan activities well to help them move forward. Staff share information with parents daily to involve them closely in their children's development. Staff keep children motivated in their learning. For example, children count the cars they are playing with, and staff support this and count with them, gently repeating the correct number when they miss a number out. Staff extend the game by asking the children to group the cars by size, further promoting mathematical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are polite and well mannered. They develop confidence and are proud of their achievements, which helps to raise their self-esteem. Staff encourage and praise children regularly for their achievements. Children have good opportunities to expand their physical development through a range of activities, such as climbing frames in the hall. Staff manage children's behaviour effectively and use successful methods to distract them from occasional inappropriate behaviour. Children learn about culture and diversity, for example, through a wide range of activities that support their knowledge of their community and the world. Staff help children to learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. For example, they talk about a vegetarian diet and the importance of eating nutritious food.

Outcomes for children are good

Children listen attentively to stories, enjoy browsing through books, and learn about rhyming words. They develop their physical coordination well, for example, they grasp and use small items and tools, such as pencils. Children learn to play happily, and they follow adults' instructions with ease. Children are happy, eager and motivated to learn, which helps them as they move on to the next stage in their learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	115343
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	825095
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Christ Church P.C.C.
Date of previous inspection	28 September 2011
Telephone number	02083002913

Christ Church Playgroup opened in 1977 and operates from a main hall, with access to a smaller room for small group activities, in Christ Church Church Hall. It is situated in Sidcup, Kent, in the London Borough of Bexley. The setting is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 12 noon for 38 weeks of the year. The setting employs six members of staff. Most staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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