

Beacon Pre-School Playgroup



Beacontree Heath Methodist Church, The Broadway, Dagenham, Essex, RM8 1DZ

Inspection date	10 May 2016
Previous inspection date	15 October 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

- Children develop strong relationships with staff. They are happy and settled in their environment.
- Children benefit from daily physical activities throughout the learning environment. Staff effectively promote a healthy lifestyle and encourage children to use a range of body movements to promote their physical skills.
- Leaders and staff have a strong understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They effectively use their knowledge to monitor children's learning and to identify any emerging gaps. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff build effective partnerships with parents. There are good arrangements in place for parents to contribute towards their children's learning. For example, parents take part in activities and regularly discuss children's learning records with staff.
- There are robust vetting procedures in place to ensure children are cared for by suitable staff. Staff supervise children closely to promote their safety and welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff miss opportunities to help children gain a deeper understanding of their own personal safety, including the importance of following hygiene practices.
- Staff do not always plan and organise some larger group activities so that all children fully benefit from the experience and are able to engage fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase daily opportunities for children to strengthen their understanding of personal safety and the importance of following hygiene practices
- review the organisation of large group activities to support children's play experiences fully and to increase their level of enjoyment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with children throughout the learning environment.
- The inspector spoke to staff and management at different intervals during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents during the inspection and reviewed their written feedback.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider about the setting's evaluation processes, partnerships with parents and children's assessment records.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documents, including the setting's policies and procedures.

Inspector

S Campbell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and procedures, and they know how to identify and report any welfare concerns. Staff assess risks throughout the learning environment regularly to promote children's welfare. The manager uses self-evaluation processes well, alongside an action plan and support from the local authority, to improve the quality of the provision. The manager ensures staff receive ongoing support and they are clear about their roles. Staff benefit from attending training, for example in behaviour management, to improve their skills and raise the good quality of children's learning and care experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's communication and language skills well. They use observation and assessments to challenge children's learning, according to their age and abilities. Staff support all children well, including those with special educational needs. They work closely with external agencies and ensure children receive targeted support, such as through individual and group play. Children show a keen interest making marks in meaningful ways to strengthen their early writing skills. For example, children enjoy writing shopping lists and drawing pictures of their parents. Children take pleasure looking at books independently and with staff. Staff skilfully capture children's attention in a variety of ways; for example, they introduce props and encourage children to predict events, to promote their interests in early reading.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff implement their roles as key persons well to help children settle and feel secure. They use consistent and positive encouragement to acknowledge children's achievements. Children learn right from wrong. They learn to make choices in practical ways to support their independence and confidence, such as what they would like for snack time. Children receive healthy meals and show a good understanding of foods that are good for them. Staff support children's move on to school well, so they become familiar with their new surroundings. For example, they work closely with school staff to share useful information about children's interests and development.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated to learn and try new experiences. They concentrate well and are good talkers. For example, they confidently recognise and discuss their names with adults. Children enjoy playing with a variety of resources, such as an electronic cash register and toy money, while using basic mathematical skills to order number words correctly. Children take pleasure playing with small-world toys; for example, they explore cars and garages, while learning to make connections with real-life situations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	100209
Local authority	Barking & Dagenham
Inspection number	1028435
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 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	Beacon Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2013
Telephone number	0208 595 4611

Beacon Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1993. It operates from Beacontree Heath Methodist Church, in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The setting operates Monday to Friday from 9am to 12pm, during term time only. The provider employs eight staff and all staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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