

Polesden Lacey Playschool

Oakdene Close, Bookham, Surrey, KT23 4PT



Inspection date	26 May 2016
Previous inspection date	18 January 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 are very much valued and welcomed at this friendly playschool. Staff form strong bonds with children and help them to feel emotionally secure.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff plan interesting, purposeful activities which encourage children to explore and investigate through their play. Children are keen to learn and make good progress.
- Children are very confident and behave well. They happily communicate and socialise with others around them. They actively seek out experiences which meet their interests.
- Staff build good partnerships with parents and other early years professionals. They successfully work together to meet children's individual care and learning needs.
- The managers and the committee are reflective and committed to providing the best possible care and education for all children. Effective delegation of roles and responsibilities helps to ensure a strong and cohesive team.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have good opportunities to increase their understanding of sounds and letters.
- Occasionally, children do not have enough adult input to extend their learning, for example, during their imaginative play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase support for older children to learn to match sounds and letters correctly, to support their early literacy skills further
- improve the quality of engagement with children during some activities to extend their learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with children, including outdoors.
- The inspector held meetings with the managers and Chair of the Committee, and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, safeguarding procedures, written policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability, qualifications and training.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Eileen Chadwick

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The managers and staff clearly understand their responsibility to protect children from harm and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about their welfare. Managers monitor staff well, providing support and guidance as required. For example, training has ensured that staff successfully implement new systems for tracking children's progress. Staff assess children's progress accurately and plan activities to capture children's interests and extend their learning. Managers effectively incorporate the views of parents and children into their development plan. For example, staff have introduced a wider range of materials for children to explore during their outdoor play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan challenging activities which build on children's previous learning. Younger children become more sociable and confident when they sing, cook and play alongside older children. Staff place a strong focus on stimulating children's speaking and listening skills through practical experiences. For example, they use mystery props from the 'song sack' during songs and rhymes while older children design and make models as they solve problems from stories. Staff help children gain a good understanding of the natural world, for example, through walks in the infant school nature trail or growing their own fruit and vegetables. Provision for children with special educational needs or disability is effective and additional funding is used well. For example, extra resources and staff support have enriched children's social and communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are enthusiastic learners and confidently explore their own ideas. They interact positively with each other in their play and learning, and learn to be kind and helpful. Staff skilfully support them to manage their own behaviour. For example, they consistently encourage children use good manners, share and take turns. Children learn to manage risks effectively to keep themselves and others safe. For example, children help staff to identify and eliminate hazards in the environment each day. Children have many good opportunities to engage in physical exercise and to spend time in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including school. They are confident learners and talkers. Children develop a strong interest in early reading. For example, they love story books and learn to use books to find information. Children develop their mathematical skills well, for example when counting out ingredients for cooking or setting out their small-world play toys. Children develop their physical skills well. For example, younger children use tools to paint and stick while older children use scissors with care and skill as they create models.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122572
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	836112
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Polesden Lacey Playschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518172
Date of previous inspection	18 January 2010
Telephone number	01372 453 162

Polesden Lacey Playschool operates from premises within Polesden Lacey Infant School in Bookham, in Leatherhead, Surrey. The playschool is open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm and on Friday mornings from 9am to 12pm, during term time. The playschool employs eight members of staff to work with children. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playschool is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years.

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