

Tower Playgroup

Church Room, Thomas A Beckett Church, Pucklechurch, South Gloucestershire, BS16 9RB



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

22 June 2016

17 March 2011

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 progress well relative to their starting points. Staff use detailed, effective observations, assessment methods, and planning to provide challenging activities that support children's interests and next steps in learning.
- Staff are motivated and enthusiastic. They have worked hard since the previous inspection to improve the quality of teaching to a consistently good standard. Regular meetings help the committee to provide good support for the staff. Effective monitoring of staff and regular evaluation of practice have improved the outcomes for children.
- Children are happy, confident, and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure at the playgroup. They are well behaved, such as when they show care and concern for new children. The staff have a caring approach and children develop strong attachments to the staff.
- Links with parents, and with other early years settings that children attend, are good. For example, through the regular sharing of information with parents, they are able to support their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always take the opportunity to help children to understand the times of change during the playgroup sessions.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to help children to develop their early writing skills as effectively as possible, in readiness for the move to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- take every opportunity to help children understand mathematics, and in particular about simple concepts of the passage of time
- seize all opportunities to extend children's early literacy learning, especially their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with children in the playroom and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector had discussions with two committee members, the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and from information gathered by the staff.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability checks and qualifications of the staff working with children, and the provider's self-evaluation, and improvement plan.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, planning, safeguarding procedures, written policies and procedures.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They use their qualifications well to meet children's needs effectively. Staff are motivated and dedicated to provide good-quality care and high standards of teaching. Staff successfully monitor the progress that children make in their learning. They quickly identify and address any gaps in children's learning and provide support to help them catch up. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning and speak highly of the staff, and of the information and care they provide.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Through the completion of regular observations, staff track children's progress and assess their interests, abilities and needs. Staff use good teaching methods as they join in with children's play to guide and support learning. For example, when children talked about their 'shop' being flooded, staff asked questions to help children think about how they could fix the leak and what they needed to do next. Staff support children's communication and language development effectively. Easily accessible resources support children's ability to make choices and develop their independent skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children make friends quickly, and they socialise and interact with each other well. Children are polite and use good manners as they play, with no prompting from the staff. For example, when children share resources, they say 'thank you' to the child who is giving them something. Staff are good role models and show that they value children's views and opinions. Staff regularly ask children for their ideas. Children understand the rules of the setting and that they need to be kind to each other. Staff support children's good health and well-being effectively. Children have good opportunities to explore the world around them. Children benefit from outside play. They enjoy developing their imaginations. For example, they enjoy riding bikes and cars around the pretend road chalked on the path. All children demonstrate a strong sense of belonging.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated, eager to learn, and they develop positive attitudes towards learning. They develop strong social and communication skills. They cooperate and negotiate well as they play together. Children develop their creative skills, for example, they enjoy model building from recycled materials. Children quickly develop the key skills they need to prepare them for their future learning and move to school, including counting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	136108
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	842987
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 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Tower Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522770
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2011
Telephone number	07722029077

Tower Playgroup opened in 1967 and registered in 1996. It is located in Pucklechurch, South Gloucestershire. The playgroup opens on Mondays and Fridays from 9am to midday, and on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am to 3pm, during school term times. The playgroup committee is funded to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are three members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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