

Herrick Playgroup

Lockerbie Avenue, Leicester, Leicestershire, LE4 7NJ



Inspection date

28 June 2016

Previous inspection date

9 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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 manager, staff and committee demonstrate a clear commitment to offering children a good standard of provision. They have worked well together and made a number of successful changes to the playgroup since the last inspection. Effective systems to monitor and build further on the quality of the playgroup are now in place.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. They speak very positively about the playgroup. Staff invite parents to regular reviews to talk about their child's progress. Parents are involved and well informed about their children's care and learning.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models and remind children about acceptable behaviour. Children share, take turns and play well together.
- Staff are kind, caring and attentive. The key-person system is effective and they know children well. Children quickly develop strong attachments to staff and show that they feel safe and emotionally secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make best use of the time available during the session. On occasions, daily routines unnecessarily interrupt children's play so they are not able to become deeply involved in their learning.
- The manager has not yet been highly effective in using information about the progress made by different groups of children to help inform priorities for improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- organise daily routines more effectively, so that children's play is not interrupted and they are able to become more deeply involved in their learning
- make better use of information gained from comparing the progress made by different groups of children to identify where the provision can be improved and to drive up standards.

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 asked staff questions about their work and jointly observed staff practice with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the playgroup's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and read their written comments to obtain their views of the playgroup.

Inspector

Claire Jenner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child's welfare. Recruitment, vetting and induction procedures are effective. Staff are vigilant, well deployed and adult-to-child ratios are well maintained. Children are safe and well cared for. The manager and staff have attended and made good use of training. They have improved their knowledge and increased in confidence. Staff comment that they feel well supported by the manager through one-to-one meetings and group discussion. They receive useful feedback following observations of their teaching. The manager checks how staff assess children's progress to identify and plan for all aspects of their learning. Managers have been proactive in rebuilding links with the new headteacher at the local school to support children's smooth transfer.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Effective systems to check on individual children's progress are in place. This helps to ensure that any gaps in children's learning are identified and strategies put in place to help children catch up. Staff promote children's communication skills well, including those of children who speak English as an additional language. They effectively model language, introduce new vocabulary and use visual aids to extend children's understanding and speaking skills. Staff provide good opportunities for children to explore different materials and media. Children describe how the jelly is sticky and green. Using their hands and tools they make shapes and patterns in sand and paint.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly in the calm, friendly and positive environment. Staff continually praise and encourage children, to help them feel valued and respected and to develop a sense of belonging. Children learn about healthy lifestyles through everyday practice. Staff teach them to manage hygiene routines independently. Children enjoy and help to prepare a varied range of foods at snack time. Children play in the fresh air on a daily basis in the playgroup garden. They develop good physical skills and learn to keep themselves safe as they use different equipment and apparatus. Staff support children's understanding about the world around them effectively. Children search for mini-beasts in the garden. Staff ask pertinent questions to help children think about what the creatures may need to survive.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good mathematical and literacy skills. They confidently count carriages in turn as they add them on to a train. They enthusiastically identify which animal is hiding in the sand as staff offer the initial sound of the animal's name. Children are confident, independent and motivated to learn. They achieve well and are well prepared for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY255108
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	1022005
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 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	Herrick Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522523
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2015
Telephone number	07946 300097 + 07940 839373

Herrick Playgroup was registered in 2003. The playgroup is open each weekday from 8.30am to 1.30pm during term time. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one who has a relevant degree. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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