

Punch And Judy Playgroup

Lympne Village Hall, Aldington Road, Lympne, Hythe, Kent, CT21 4LE



Inspection date	13 May 2016
Previous inspection date	29 June 2015

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	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 and her staff team have made many improvements since the previous inspection. For example, staff have undertaken training and developed their professional skills to support children's behaviour.
- Staff work very well together and are now deployed effectively, which has helped to improve the organisation of the playgroup. Staff provide a welcoming and stimulating environment where children take part in a range of stimulating activities, indoors and outdoors.
- Staff form good partnerships with parents. They provide parents with detailed information about their children's progress, and encourage them to extend their children's learning at home.
- The manager and staff monitor children's progress well. Children make good progress, and develop the skills they need for their next stage in learning and move to school.
- Children have good relationships with their key persons and other staff. Children understand the playgroup rules, follow routines and are kind to their friends.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not use opportunities to test out and challenge children's thinking skills as effectively as possible.
- The manager does not always include parents' views in the playgroup's self-evaluation methods to help identify areas for further improvement as effectively as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on staff's use of questioning to help support children's thinking skills and learning further
- increase opportunities for parents to be more involved in the self-evaluation process.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed its impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at convenient times through the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including attendance registers, children's records, suitability checks and the playgroup's development plans.

Inspector

Nicola Chambers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff undertake regular safeguarding training and have good awareness of how to keep children safe. They understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Thorough recruitment procedures ensure that staff and committee members are suitable to work with children. Staff assess and minimise risks successfully. The manager provides good support for staff's professional development. For example, regular meetings are used to discuss individual children and their progress, staff training needs and any concerns that staff may have. The manager regularly evaluates the playgroup and identifies areas for improvement. She actively seeks the views of staff and other professionals to help form achievable improvement plans. Staff establish good links with other settings that children attend. For example, they share information to provide continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn. They get to know the children very well through regular observations and they decide their next steps in learning. Staff use this information well to plan activities that are based around children's interests. Staff promote children's physical skills well. For example, children develop their coordination when using play dough, construction bricks and tools to mix sand. Staff promote children's communication and language effectively. They use a range of useful techniques to help to develop children's vocabulary and understanding, for example, modelling words, giving explanations, and using pictures cards and objects.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is well established and effective. Children settle quickly, explore the environment with confidence and are eager to learn. Children behave well and staff teach them how to keep themselves safe. Staff are positive role models and they encourage children to share, take turns and respect others. Staff provide good opportunities for children to learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. For example, children have ongoing access to fresh air and exercise. Children eat healthy foods, for example, at snack time, and they talk about nutritious food as they eat their packed lunches.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities. Children develop good social skills and learn to behave well during group activities, such as singing and stories. They listen to instructions carefully, learn to work together, and are eager to try new things, such as finding insects hidden in ice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127358
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1021099
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	26
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Punch And Judy Playgroup, Lympne Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522610
Date of previous inspection	29 June 2015
Telephone number	07527111584

Punch And Judy Playgroup registered in 1987. The playgroup is open each weekday, except Tuesdays, during school terms. It opens from 9am to 3pm on Mondays and Fridays, and from 9am to 12.45pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The playgroup committee employs eight staff; of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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