

The Beeches Playgroup

Milborne Port Primary School, North Street, Milborne Port, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 5EP



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

8 September 2016

13 October 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

- Children are happy and confident at the group. They quickly develop strong relationships with staff. They feel safe and are emotionally secure.
- Staff plan and provide a broad range of activities and learning experiences, which children enjoy. Children make good progress and develop the necessary skills for their move to school.
- Partnerships with parents, external agencies, other providers and the school effectively contribute to meeting individual needs and ensure positive outcomes for children.
- The management team and staff have worked hard to address the actions and recommendations raised at the previous inspection. For example, there is improved support for staff to effectively develop their skills. This has had a positive impact on the quality of teaching, to improve children's learning experiences.
- Self-evaluation is effective, and leads to clear plans for ongoing improvement. There are effective systems in place to monitor the learning provision, and to identify any gaps in children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not gather detailed information about what the children already know and can do when they first start at the setting, to fully support planning from the outset.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to encourage children to do things for themselves and build on their independence skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain further information from parents about what their children already know and can do on entry and make more use of this to support initial planning
- make the most of all opportunities in routines and activities to build on children's independence skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff are knowledgeable about child protection issues. They have a good understanding of the signs that a child may be at risk of harm and know what to do if they have any concerns. Safeguarding is effective. Staff use their very good observations of each child to monitor their ongoing progress. Assessments are precise, well focused and used effectively to plan activities, which meet children's individual learning needs. Staff have regular training opportunities and successfully use the skills they learn to support children's learning. For example, they use signs with the children to support their communication and language skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are enthusiastic and motivated to learn. They thoroughly enjoy being physically active, as they move around in time to the music and follow instructions well. Children excitedly explore and investigate the outside environment. For example, they use magnifying glasses to look at patterns on a snail's shell, and use words such as 'slippery' and 'slimy' to describe what a snail might feel like. Children thoroughly enjoy role play. They pretend to cook food on a barbecue and make cups of tea. They put on hard hats and use tools, such as hammers and screwdrivers, as they pretend to be builders. Children call out 'stand back' as they use a hammer to fix two bricks together, showing a good awareness of safety.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff know the children well and plan activities which interest and engage them successfully so that they remain focused. Children's behaviour is good. They are good at sharing resources and understand the importance of taking turns. Staff give the children lots of praise and encouragement, which helps to effectively boost their confidence and self-esteem. Staff teach them to follow thorough hygiene routines and about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. There are good opportunities for children to develop their physical skills as they use the climbing equipment and slide. Children enjoy the well-resourced learning environment, indoors and outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills for the next stage of their learning and school. For example, older children confidently write their name on their picture. Children are beginning to match sounds and letters, as they fish letters from the water. Children have strong communication and mathematical skills. For example, they confidently talk in full sentences, count and identify colours. They learn good manners and play together cooperatively. All children make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412924
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1030900
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	22
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Margaret Ann Herdsman
Registered person unique reference number	RP511954
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2015
Telephone number	07929 626847

The Beeches Playgroup registered in 2010. It is in the grounds of Milborne Port Primary School, near Sherborne, Dorset. The playgroup opens on Monday to Friday in term time only. Sessions run on Monday to Thursday from 8.15am to 3pm. On Friday, it opens from 8.15am to 12.30pm. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five staff including the manager. Of these, four members of staff hold childcare qualifications at level 3 and one member of staff holds a qualification at level 5.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016

