

Hempsted Playgroup & Toddlers



c/o Hempsted Primary School, St. Swithuns Road, Hempsted, Gloucester, GL2 5LH

Inspection date	22 September 2016
Previous inspection date	24 September 2012

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 enjoy their time at playgroup and form good relationships with both staff and other children, helping them feel emotionally secure.
- Teaching is good across all areas of learning indoors and outdoors. All children make good progress, including those who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff set up an environment where children are able to consider and choose what they need for their play. This encourages children to be motivated learners.
- The manager supports staff well. She encourages experienced staff to mentor those undertaking training so that children receive consistently good learning opportunities.
- The manager and staff monitor each child's development and identify any emerging gaps quickly. They provide effective support to close them, enabling children to catch up and make the progress they should.
- Self-evaluation is effective. Ideas from parents and staff help to shape the manager's plans for ongoing improvements, such as managing children's arrival more efficiently.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not organise large group activities as well as possible. Staff do not consistently pick up on children's suggestions and ideas, and occasionally children lose interest at these times.
- Children work independently in most circumstances. However, staff sometimes take over and complete tasks that children can manage themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor and organise large group activities more effectively to ensure that staff engage well with children at these times, and listen and respond to children's suggestions and ideas
- build on opportunities for children to manage tasks independently to further develop their capabilities and skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled records and documentation, including policies and children's development records.

Inspector

Caron Lubin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager leads a committed staff team to provide children with a good start to their learning. Safeguarding is effective. All staff undertake safeguarding training and the manager implements a rigorous process to ensure the suitability of new and established members of staff. The small staff team and the manager support each other well. Staff reflect on their practice and share ideas from training that benefit children. For example, staff have improved the way they plan for the next steps in children's learning. Staff talk to parents regularly to inform them of their children's progress. They share ideas, such as road safety sessions, to continue children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff organise the environment well to motivate children to learn. They plan a good range of activities across all areas of learning. For example, to help children's understanding of early mathematics, staff instigate a game using magnetic shapes. Staff encourage children to choose the items they need, such as glue and string, from an ample array of craft materials. This enables children to develop their own ideas during play and creative activities. Staff interact with children to offer support where needed, helping them to achieve their goals and recognise what they can do. Children feel confident and capable. The key-person approach works very well. Staff have an accurate understanding of what children know and can do. They use this knowledge to plan their teaching so children make good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff, children and parents are friendly. Children are happy and enjoy their time at playgroup. They develop a positive attitude to learning, which helps them prepare for the move to school. Children behave well. Staff are good role models and explain how to share and cooperate with one another. They help children develop a good sense of belonging and well-being. For example, children enjoy singing the Hempsted Playgroup song when they arrive. Staff use lunch and snack times to develop children's social skills and help them to manage tasks such as hand washing or pouring drinks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Children count confidently and use pencils well as they practise early writing skills. They enjoy physical play outside and learn how this supports their health and well-being. Children develop good relationships. They support their friends and take turns, and are ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101762
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1058704
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Hempsted Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907798
Date of previous inspection	24 September 2012
Telephone number	01452 500040

Hempsted Playgroup and Toddlers registered in 1997. The playgroup operates from a purpose-built unit in the grounds of Hempsted Primary School in Gloucester. The playgroup is open from 9am to 3pm on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 9am to midday on Tuesday and Friday, term times only. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four members of staff. Of these, one has a qualification in childcare at level 4 and two have a qualification at level 3. The other member of staff is undertaking training at level 3.

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