

St Giles Playgroup

North Leatherhead Community Association, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, Surrey,
KT22 7PX



Inspection date	3 November 2016
Previous inspection date	3 December 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of leadership and teaching is inspirational. Staff are greatly valued and provided with excellent training, mentoring and coaching. They have an in-depth understanding of how children learn and apply expert teaching skills, for example, to encourage children's communication and language, creativity and thinking skills.
- Children are thoroughly inspired, motivated and challenged by staff's innovative planning for their play and learning. All children make outstanding progress. The presentation and resourcing of the environment are particularly impressive.
- Managers and staff use highly effective strategies for assessing and tracking the progress of individual and groups of children. Any gaps in children's achievement are promptly identified. Strong partnerships are formed with external agencies to ensure that children receive all the necessary help to catch up in readiness for school.
- Children's well-being is given the highest priority by staff. Children form strong emotional attachments with their designated member of staff. They settle in very easily and establish firm friendships with each other. Children's behaviour is exemplary.
- Managers and staff use highly effective methods to help them reflect on and evaluate the quality of teaching practice and outcomes for children. For example, staff complete focused observations on each other's engagement with children during activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide parents with even more information to help them support children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in activities and staff's interactions inside and outside.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation relating to safeguarding, children's progress, staff suitability checks and self-evaluation.
- The inspector sought and took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with managers.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff recruitment procedures are secure and risk assessments are used extremely well to ensure children's safety. Management and staff complete regular child protection training linked to their level of responsibility. Everyone has a thorough and up-to-date understanding of what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Impressive improvements have been made since the last inspection to the provision for outdoor play, the teaching of mathematics and the support for children who are learning English as an additional language. Parents receive detailed information about children's progress, their next steps in learning and planning, but not all possibilities have been explored for helping all parents to fully support their children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have high expectations of what children are capable of achieving. They are immensely skilled in planning activities that build on children's experiences, interests and abilities. They provide children with superb opportunities to represent and develop their own ideas, using a range of resources. For example, after the excitement of being visited by the fire brigade, children built their own 'fire engine' using giant wooden blocks and planks. They filled spray canisters with water to represent 'extinguishers'. Staff support children's sentence building effectively. For instance, they comment on children's actions saying 'I can see you are putting a ladder against the side of the engine.' They skilfully encourage children to make predictions, such as what may happen if water is poured into a colander. The interest staff show in what children are doing inspires their ideas further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop high levels of confidence and independence. They are keen to be the daily helper and take their responsibilities very seriously, for instance, to prepare the snacks and help with register time. Children serve themselves snacks, manage their toileting and put on their coats. Children inspiringly share ideas and engage in joint projects; for example, they designed and built a scarecrow together. They learn to value each other's cultures and faiths. Children are taught how to assess and manage their own risks, such as for climbing. They are astutely aware of what to do in an emergency, including being able to ring 999.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well prepared for starting school. They express themselves articulately, are immensely inquisitive, and confidently ask questions about how the world works and why. Children competently manage practicalities, such as serving themselves snacks and opening their lunchboxes. They enthusiastically engage in group discussions and singing, and make excellent progress in literacy and mathematics.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447774
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1059379
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	St Giles Playgroup
Registered person unique reference number	RP531663
Date of previous inspection	3 December 2012
Telephone number	07854825937

St Giles Playgroup first opened in 1992 and re-registered in its current setting in 2012. The group is committee run and operates from North Leatherhead Community Association Hall, situated in a residential area of Leatherhead, Surrey. It is open on Monday and Thursday between 9am and 3.30pm and on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday between 9am and midday, term time only. The playgroup receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years. Eight staff are employed to work with the children. The manager has a degree in early childcare and education; four staff hold childcare qualifications at level 3, one of whom is working towards gaining a degree.

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