

Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

Milborne St Andrew Village Hall, Milborne St Andrew, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 0JX



Inspection date

14 November 2016

Previous inspection date

27 June 2013

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

- The provider supports staff well in gaining qualifications and continuing to extend their knowledge and skills through professional development.
- Staff organise the stimulating environment effectively and make good use of the resources to support children's creativity. For example, children make meals in the garden following a recipe from a cookery book. They use dried pasta and natural ingredients, such as conkers as tomatoes.
- Children settle quickly on arrival and are eager to take part in the activities. They behave well and understand the staff's expectations. Children have positive relationships, are kind and share. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff make regular observations of children's achievements and use them well to plan for their next stages of learning. They take into account children's interests, which motivates them to learn and ensures they are excited to explore.
- The management team has effective systems of self-evaluation. Parents have good opportunities to contribute their views and staff listen to children's feedback. They continually look for ways to maintain the good quality outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not gain comprehensive information on children's development before they attend the playgroup to plan more effectively at the start.
- Staff miss some opportunities to help children make predictions and test their ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the information gained on children's development prior to them starting at the group to plan more effectively straight away
- help children to make predictions and test out their ideas to extend and challenge their learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with children, staff and parents and took account of the playgroup's self-evaluation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector checked the safety of the premises and safeguarding information.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff implement their policies and procedures well to keep children safe. They have a good understanding of child protection procedures and how to safeguard children's welfare. Following the previous inspection, the management team and staff have made some good improvements. For example, they now make greater use of the outdoor space, recognising its importance on children's welfare and learning. They have further plans to extend children's experiences even further. The manager monitors children's development and staff's observations to ensure children receive any additional support to catch up. The manager works with the small staff team to share best practice and find better ways of working. For example, in response to the number of two-year-old children attending the setting, staff have reviewed and reorganised their key groups to better meet children's needs and focus their planning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn through play and taking part in challenging activities. The key person speaks to parents daily and shares good information with them to support children's learning at home. Staff encourage children to be observant and inquisitive. For example, they look closely at the inside of an apple and learn the names of the different parts. They discuss why the water has dried up in the stream and how it might fill up again. Staff provide good support for children's language and communication skills. For example, they phrase questions carefully to build on what the children know and to extend their vocabulary.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are deployed effectively to be at hand to support children's physical and emotional needs. They provide good support for children's independence. Children love being given responsibility for age-appropriate tasks. For example, they use tools to prepare and serve their snacks and they put on their coats and boots. Staff broaden children's experiences by inviting people to the playgroup. For example, visits from a police officer and a nurse strengthen children's awareness of keeping safe and healthy. Staff help children to think of others and gain a positive awareness of people's differences.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills in readiness for starting school. For example, they demonstrate an eagerness to learn, gain control and coordination in their physical skills and become confident communicators. Children develop strong mathematical and literacy skills. For example, they count how many small jugs of water it takes to fill the large one. They make their own nursery rhyme books, thinking carefully about how to sequence the pictures.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY217717
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1061631
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	17
Name of registered person	Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905024
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2013
Telephone number	07767450967

Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup registered in 2002 and is managed by a voluntary committee. It is located in Milborne St Andrew, Dorset. The playgroup is open on Monday and Tuesday from 9am to 2.30pm and from Wednesday to Friday from 9am to 1pm. There is an optional earlier start from 8.30am. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four members of staff. Of these, the manager holds early years professional status and three members of staff hold an early years qualification at level 3. One member of staff is working towards a qualification at level 5.

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