

Longhorsley Village Playgroup Community Interest Company

Longhorsley Village Hall, Drummonds Close, Longhorsley, Northumberland, NE65
8UR



Inspection date	18 November 2016
Previous inspection date	17 April 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

- Staff provide parents with regular updates on their children's progress. They encourage parents to contribute to children's learning, for instance, by sharing news and achievements from home. Partnerships with other professionals are good.
- Staff are well qualified. They regularly observe children's play and plan activities that reflect their interests and what they need to learn next. Children make good progress in their learning. Outdoor teaching is rich and varied and enhances children's play and exploration.
- Children's language skills are effectively supported. Staff introduce children to new words, such as frozen and hibernation. This helps broaden children's range of vocabulary and their understanding of the world around them.
- Staff support children to learn about risks to their safety, such as understanding the need to walk safely on pavements when they are outside the playgroup.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always obtain enough information from parents about what children already know and can do when they first start.
- The monitoring of staff practice does not yet focus on precisely what they need to do to develop their teaching skills even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the range of information gained from parents about what their child already knows and can do when they first start and use this information to further support children's learning and development from the outset
- strengthen the monitoring of staff practice to identify focused professional development opportunities that raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good awareness of procedures that must be followed should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff recruitment, vetting and induction procedures are thorough, helping to ensure children are cared for by suitable adults. Staff are committed and enthusiastic about their role and they are keen to complete further training to enhance their skills and knowledge. Monitoring systems are used well to keep a close check on children's learning. Focused improvement plans are ongoing, to build on what works well and identify any areas for improvement. Parents praise staff and the service they provide. They say that staff are extremely friendly, approachable and provide excellent care for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know their key group of children well, including their likes, dislikes and capabilities. This knowledge is instrumental in helping them plan activities which meet the needs of all children. Staff cleverly use everyday experiences to inspire learning and successfully capture children's imagination. For instance, children thoroughly enjoy a walk to the allotment to collect leaves and twigs to build a hedgehog house. During the walk staff alert children to the frost that has formed on the fallen leaves and twigs. Children comment on how cold the frost is and how the ice sparkles like glass. The inspirational use of the allotment area enthuses children to learn new skills, such as sawing twigs to make the hedgehog house. Staff extend children's learning and help them to think about other materials they can use to keep the hedgehog warm. Older children are keen to express their ideas. They talk about how they could use a cloth bag to make a tent and use leaves and bark to make it warm.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children and parents are invited to visit the playgroup and gradually build upon their attendance. Children's behaviour is good. Staff are good role models and offer children gentle reminders about sharing and turn taking. Children's independence is encouraged. For example, children are taught the importance of washing their hands before eating. They practise new skills, such as putting on their own coat before going outside. Children learn about the importance of fresh produce as part of their diet as they care for and harvest their own vegetables. With the abundance of vegetables they make soup and share it with the local residents. This approach helps children to think of others, as well as strengthening the links with the local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children achieve well and make good progress in their learning. They meet expected levels of development typical for their age. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring, investigating and problem solving. They carefully consider how best to make the hedgehog house and how to transport leaves and sticks in their wheelbarrows. Children enjoy looking at books, either on their own or with friends or staff. They develop pre-writing skills and are learning to count and identify colours and shapes. Children acquire all of the key skills they need for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405427
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1065482
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	15
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Longhorsley Village Playgroup Community Interest Company
Registered person unique reference number	RP907279
Date of previous inspection	17 April 2013
Telephone number	07910 680 510

Longhorsley Village Playgroup Community Interest Company has been registered since 2010. The playgroup employs six members of staff. Of these, three hold qualified teacher status, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5 and one at level 3. The playgroup also provides wrap-around care for nursery and school aged children. Sessions are available on Monday, from 11am until 5.45pm, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 7.30am until 5.45pm, and on Friday, from 7.30am until 1.30pm, term time only. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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