

Littlemore Playgroup

Sunflower Room, Littlemore Community Centre, Giles Road, Oxford, OX4 4NL



Inspection date	7 December 2016
Previous inspection date	11 November 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 experienced staff regularly observe children and provide activities that reflect their interests and what they need to learn next. Children make good progress in their learning, relative to their initial capabilities.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who are learning English as an additional language receive effective support to help them achieve well. For example, staff regularly meet with parents and take advice from other professionals to help them meet all children's individual needs.
- Staff work well with parents. They are particularly effective at helping them to extend their children's learning at home to further encourage children's development. Parents express how the help they receive improves their understanding of how children learn.
- Staff provide a welcoming, calm and well-organised environment, where children behave positively and show that are confident and happy.
- The manager quickly acts on the views and advice sought from parents and local authority advisers to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully encourage children to listen and be more involved in some activities, to extend their learning as well as possible.
- The manager does not consistently build on her good systems to monitor and review the impact of staff training and support, to raise the quality of staff practice further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create further opportunities to monitor and review the impact of staff support and training, to achieve even higher levels of practice
- encourage children's concentration and listening skills more during their everyday experiences, to extend their learning and skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff's interactions with children, and viewed the toys, resources and equipment.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers, staff and children, and checked how staff assess children's progress.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled records and checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment and professional development, and the evaluation process.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand their responsibilities and know the appropriate action to take if they are worried about a child's welfare. Secure arrangements are in place for the recruitment of staff, including checks to ensure they are safe to care for children. The manager provides staff with regular guidance and support, and ensures they have access to regular training, to improve their skills well overall. The manager monitors the assessments of children's learning to quickly address any gaps in their progress. The manager evaluates the quality of provision well and has met the recommendations from the last inspection. She uses ongoing improvement plans to build on what works well and to identify further areas for development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children benefit from many opportunities to make their own choices, consolidate previous learning and link their ideas. For example, children explored rolling a toy construction vehicle, first in lentils and then over play dough; noticing the effect of the different marks it left. Children who prefer to learn outside develop skills that they have practised inside as they freely transport toys. Staff support children's early literacy and mathematical skills effectively throughout the daily activities. They focus well on helping children to learn new words to develop their conversations. For example, they encouraged younger children to talk about objects that caught their interest as they explored picture cards. They asked simple questions and gave children the time they needed to reply.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's emotional and physical well-being effectively. For example, they use settling-in arrangements to consider the different needs and experiences of children. Staff offer children gentle reminders about turn taking. They encourage children's independence well; for example, as children put on their coats before going outside. Children learn about the importance of fresh produce as part of a healthy diet and enjoy choosing fruits and vegetables for their snacks. Staff teach children about safety, such as when they take manageable risks in their play and manoeuvre around obstacles on cycles. Children learn to value each other's differences in many ways, including through their interactive displays and cooking activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate creative thinking and perseverance as they play. For example, they find ways to achieve their own goals, such as engaging others to help them. Children's behaviour is good. They are confident and motivated and achieve well. All children, including those for whom the provider receives additional funding, progress well given their starting points. Children acquire the key skills they need for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134012
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1061374
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Littlemore Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518074
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2013
Telephone number	01865396449

Littlemore Playgroup registered in 1992. It operates from a community centre building in Littlemore, on the edge of Oxford. The playgroup provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup is open each weekday from 9am until midday, during school term times. On occasions, due to demand, the playgroup may open on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 12.45pm to 2.45pm. The provider employs four members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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

