

Cromford Playgroup

Methodist Church, Water Lane, Cromford, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3QH



Inspection date

6 December 2016

Previous inspection date

16 July 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 manager uses the self-evaluation process well. She identifies areas of weakness and set targets for development. This helps improve the quality of the provision and provides better outcomes for children. Areas identified for improvement have been successfully addressed.
- The manager and staff have developed effective partnerships with parents. They work well together to meet children's care and learning needs effectively. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning. They give very positive feedback and value the frequent opportunities to share information about their children.
- Children make good progress. Staff use the information from children's assessments well to support their next steps in learning. Staff identify any gaps in children's development and adapt the provision to help meet children's needs.
- Staff promote children's physical development effectively. Children handle equipment well and gain good control of their bodies. They use large equipment skilfully and learn to balance and climb. They learn to take calculated risks and keep themselves safe.
- Staff are kind and encouraging, helping children to grow in confidence and feel valued. Children are happy and well settled. They have made effective attachments with their key person.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not use all opportunities that arise to challenge and extend children's understanding of capacity and size.
- Staff do not consistently provide clear messages that help to develop children's understanding of the importance of eating healthily.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure staff make the most of opportunities to develop children's interest and skills in mathematics to the highest possible level
- increase opportunities for children to learn about the importance of healthy food and how this affects their body.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the children and staff at convenient times throughout the inspection. She held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside, including snack and group activities.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and learning records and planning documentation.
- The inspector spoke with some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children. She sampled and looked at some of the policies and procedures and the playgroup's action plan.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff understand their role in safeguarding children. They know how to respond to any concerns they may have about a child's welfare. Furthermore, robust recruitment procedures help to ensure the suitability of all adults working within the playgroup. Staff implement comprehensive risk assessments to keep children safe. The manager and committee monitor and support staff's practice and their professional development to continuously improve the quality of teaching. Staff attend a wide range of training opportunities to help support them to deliver good quality learning experiences. The manager has established good links with the local school and other professionals, which helps ensure continuity of learning and care for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and experienced. They understand well how children learn through play. They provide a wide range of interesting and challenging activities to promote learning. Staff provide a consistent approach to children's learning and care and overall, the quality of teaching is strong. They effectively focus on supporting children's language and communication skills. For example, they provide a running commentary about what children are doing. They use questions well to help children to think and hold purposeful conversations about their home experiences. Children play imaginatively. They plan how to help Santa make his toys and use play telephones to call the elves. Staff support children's creative skills well. For example, children create snowmen models from dough and delight in making their Christmas cards using a variety of materials.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a stimulating and welcoming environment. Children clearly enjoy their time at the playgroup. Younger children especially benefit from the calm and caring environment staff provide. Staff foster children's independence and cooperation very well. Staff encourage children to make choices in their play from a good range of resources, which are invitingly displayed and easily accessible. The manager and staff are good role models. Children develop the ability to manage their own feelings well and grow in confidence as a result. They are tolerant, enjoy working together, behave well and learn to share. Children have plenty of opportunities to improve their self-care skills in readiness for school. They spend lots of time outside and benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise. Staff effectively encourage children to follow good hygiene procedures. For instance, older children know they need to wash their hands before they eat, after playing outside and going to the toilet.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well, including funded children. Children develop a range of skills which prepares them well for their next stage of learning and school. They have a positive attitude to learning. Children are sociable, confident and eager to try out new things. Children develop good literacy skills. For example, they use books independently, learn about letter sounds and are beginning to write their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	206753
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1063675
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	24
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Cromford Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911544
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2013
Telephone number	07905 937371

Cromford Playgroup was registered in 1990. The playgroup employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. One member of staff is a qualified teacher and two staff are unqualified. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from midday until 3pm on Monday, 9am until midday on Tuesday and Friday and 9am until 3pm on Wednesday and Thursday. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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