

Crossways Playgroup

Crossways Village Hall, Moigne Combe Road, Crossways, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8JA



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

8 December 2016

11 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 playgroup leader regularly reviews and evaluates the provision. She considers the views of parents when determining which areas of practice to improve further.
- Children respond well to the staff's caring and warm manner. They settle in easily on arrival. They are happy and relaxed and feel safe and secure.
- Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. Children learn to be respectful and considerate of others.
- The playgroup leader monitors children's progress well and, along with staff, makes good use of information from parents and observations to identify children's needs. Children demonstrate positive attitudes to learning and make good progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are good. For example, staff share information about children's progress with parents and work with them to meet children's needs.
- The playgroup leader makes effective use of any additional funding. For example, this helps her provide extra support for individual children's learning when appropriate.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always build on opportunities that present themselves to develop children's understanding of mathematical language further.
- Staff do not take full advantage of opportunities to develop children's awareness of how letters and sounds relate to each other, to help develop their early literacy skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to develop children's understanding of mathematical language further
- take even more advantage of opportunities to build on children's understanding of how letters and sounds relate to each other to help further support their early literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup leader and held discussions about children's learning and progress.
- The inspector held discussions with the playgroup leader and other members of staff.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation such as the playgroup's self-evaluation, records of children's progress, and documents relating to safeguarding.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and read the playgroup's record of parental views.

Inspector

Steven Popper

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The playgroup leader makes good use of staff training and qualifications. For example, she has incorporated ideas from training to strengthen the provision for children who have special educational needs. She coaches other staff effectively. For instance, she offers them guidance about how to talk with children to help them develop their practice further. The playgroup leader has successfully improved the provision over time. For example, she has developed the opportunities for learning in the outdoor area. Safeguarding is effective. The playgroup leader supports staff to keep children safe. For example, staff carry out daily safety checks on the resources and premises, and know how to report any safeguarding concerns. The playgroup leader keeps herself informed about local safeguarding procedures well. She works well with other providers to help meet children's needs. For example, she shares information with staff from other settings so they can work together to provide continuity in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The playgroup leader and staff effectively plan to meet children's learning needs. For example, they plan and provide activities that build on children's interests and develop their independence skills. For example, during the inspection, staff enabled children to put on a spontaneous puppet show. This activity helped the children develop their skills in speaking, expressing themselves and working together. Staff generally talk to children in ways that extend their learning. For example, staff encouraged children to experiment with playdough and consider how it felt and ways it could be moulded and stretched.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff effectively support children to develop their physical skills. For example, staff provided children with the opportunity to ride different toy vehicles around a large space and encouraged them to move with care and control. Staff meet children's emotional needs well such as by consistently offering them praise and encouragement. Staff give children comfort and reassurance when needed such as when a child got frustrated and dismayed when trying to use a magnetic fishing rod. Children learn how to recognise and avoid risk well. For example, they used cutting tools safely and drove their toy vehicles carefully, giving much consideration for others' safety.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, motivated and happy learners who value achievement. They develop good communication skills and a good understanding of the world around them. For example, children enjoy exploring resources that represent different cultures and religions. Children are well prepared with the skills they need for the next stages of their learning and education such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	139331
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1061433
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	16
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Crossways Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901976
Date of previous inspection	11 July 2013
Telephone number	01305 853466

Crossways Playgroup registered in 1993. It operates from a village hall in Crossways, near Dorchester, in Dorset. The playgroup operates on Mondays and Thursdays from 9am to 3pm, on Tuesdays from 9am to 12pm, and on Wednesdays from 9am to 1pm and 1pm to 3pm. It operates during school term time only. Three staff currently work at the setting, two of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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