

# St David's Hill Playgroup

41b Bonhay Road, St David's, Exeter, EX4 4BP



<b>Inspection date</b>	12 December 2016
Previous inspection date	14 November 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 high expectations of the manager provide a clear vision for the playgroup. The manager seeks the views of parents, staff and children to help identify the setting's strengths and areas to improve further.
- Staff provide children with challenging and interesting activities. They help children to make choices and decisions about their play and support them effectively to build on their prior knowledge and skills. This supports children to make good progress.
- Staff build strong relationships with parents. Staff regularly share children's achievements with parents, along with information about how to support their child's learning at home.
- The manager has established good relationships with local schools. Staff share information with teachers regarding children's learning, providing continuity as children prepare to move on to school.
- Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the playgroup. Staff know the children well and form secure bonds with them. This helps to support children's emotional well-being and develop their confidence and self-esteem.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children who speak languages other than English at home are not routinely provided with many opportunities to hear or use these languages within the playgroup.
- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to hear and speak other languages that are spoken at home to develop their language and communication skills further
- build on opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills even further.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager and met with her at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation including policies and children's assessment records.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from written documentation.

### Inspector

Petra Morgan

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff undertake safeguarding training and understand their responsibilities in protecting children's welfare. The manager effectively monitors both individual and groups of children's progress to ensure every child makes good progress. She uses additional funding successfully to improve outcomes for children. For example, she has introduced drama sessions to help children develop their language and social skills. The manager supports staff in their roles, for example, through individual meetings and yearly appraisals. Staff attend professional development opportunities that help build on their skills and knowledge. For instance, staff attended training which has supported children's communication through gestures and pictures. This helps all children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, to make good progress.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular observations and accurate assessments of children. Children develop a good awareness of mathematics. For example, they confidently sing counting songs and name shapes as they play. Staff support children's communication and language skills well. They skilfully encourage children to listen carefully and identify hidden objects from the sounds they make when shaken. They model speech by repeating and introducing new words to extend children's vocabulary. Children enjoy group activities where they learn about letters and sounds in a fun way. For example, children make letters from playdough and staff then extend their learning by linking these letters to familiar words.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. Staff teach children to be polite, take turns and share. They encourage children's physical skills effectively. For example, children run outside, roll hoops and play ball games. Staff support children's awareness of good personal hygiene practices and the importance of healthy lifestyles successfully. They help children develop a good understanding of how to stay safe. For example, staff use a toy, 'Gertrude Goose', to help children understand simple safety rules such as holding hands as they walk outside. Children develop good levels of independence during the playgroup's routines. They put on their own coats and enjoy helping with tasks at snack time such as helping to cut up the fruit. Children have good opportunities to learn about the wider world, other cultures and beliefs. For example, children made lanterns to celebrate Diwali.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They are motivated learners who listen well and respond positively to instructions. Children successfully gain the skills needed to move on to the next stage of their learning or school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY419777
<b>Local authority</b>	Devon
<b>Inspection number</b>	1058970
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	20
<b>Name of registered person</b>	The St David's Hill Playgroup
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP517790
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 November 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01392 425 519

St David's Hill Playgroup registered in 2011. It operates from a converted house in Exeter. The playgroup is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm for 43 weeks of the year. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four members of staff who each hold a qualification at level 3.

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