

Hollingbury Park Playgroup

Hollingbury Park Pavilion, Ditchling Road, Brighton, BN1 7HS



Inspection date	13 December 2016
Previous inspection date	11 September 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 work hard to develop good partnerships with parents. Parents are pleased with the range of information they receive about their child's learning and development and the opportunities they have to become involved.
- Children are happy, content and feel safe. Staff encourage them to behave well. For example, they talk to children calmly and quietly when minor disagreements occur, which helps children to learn to reach amicable resolutions.
- When children start, staff establish what they can and cannot do. From then on, they make regular observations and plan interesting activities to help children to make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff are actively encouraged to update their skills and knowledge to help improve outcomes for children. The manager holds regular individual meetings with staff to discuss their practice, and identify strengths and areas to develop further.
- Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they learn to climb, balance and move about on larger play equipment outside.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of all opportunities to help children develop their understanding of mathematical concepts and language.
- Not all members of staff effectively challenge children to help further extend their learning effectively.

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 all opportunities to help children extend their understanding of mathematical concepts and language further
- develop staff's skills further to help them consistently challenge and extend children's learning more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all members of staff.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of children's activities with the manager and discussed the learning that took place.
- The inspector held discussions about safeguarding procedures with the manager and with other members of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All members of staff are clear about the procedures to follow to help protect children. They know who to contact if they have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare. The management team and staff reflect on and review their work effectively. For example, a mud kitchen has been introduced to encourage children to dig, investigate and explore. Staff check children's progress frequently and plan activities to help children to catch up if necessary. In addition, they use the expertise of other professionals to help them meet children's additional needs. Staff have good links with other settings that children attend including schools. They share information about children's achievements to help achieve consistency in their learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have a wide range of opportunities to celebrate cultures beyond their immediate environment. For example, children made dragons and tried different foods to celebrate different cultures and festivals. There is a wide range of opportunities for children to learn that print carries meaning. For example, children see common words in English and in other languages. Children's communication and language skills are effectively encouraged. For example, staff use sign language, and repeat words and phrases clearly back to children to help to encourage correct pronunciation.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children confidently lead their own learning. For example, they decide whether to sing or play the instruments, loudly or quietly. Staff encourage children to share and take turns. For instance, when making 'snow', all children have an opportunity to mix in the water. Children are encouraged to eat a healthy diet. For instance, staff provide parents with suggestions to help them provide healthy options in children's lunchboxes. Children learn to use tools such as scissors safely, carefully cutting round shapes to make Christmas pictures. They have positive relationships with staff and, in particular, their key person. This helps to develop children's sense of belonging and emotional well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need for the next stage of their education. For instance, children use their early writing skills to create letters to Santa. They develop a love of books and enjoy listening to stories. For example, they know how to turn the pages and eagerly join in with repeated phrases. Children develop a good understanding of the daily routines. For example, they know to tidy up before lunch, and enjoy taking responsibility for tasks such as handing out plates at snack time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453048
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1063003
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Hollingbury Park Playgroup Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531947
Date of previous inspection	11 September 2013
Telephone number	01273551847

Hollingbury Park Playgroup first opened in 1970 and re-registered in 2013 under new, private management. The playgroup is situated in the Hollingbury area of Brighton, East Sussex. It is open each weekday from 8am to 3pm during term time only. There are eight members of staff, one of whom holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

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