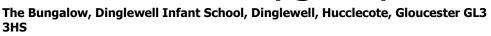
Hucclecote Playgroup





Inspection date	12 January 2017
Previous inspection date	28 April 2014

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 and play leader provide strong management and have developed an experienced staff team. They work closely with the management committee to ensure efficient use of resources. Together they evaluate the effectiveness of the playgroup and make plans to ensure continuous improvement and development.
- The well-trained staff know the children well and provide interesting and enjoyable activities to support their individual needs. Children make good progress in their learning and development from their starting points.
- Staff provide a welcoming environment where children's care and welfare needs are given top priority. Staff follow an effective range of policies and procedures to ensure children are safe and secure at all times.
- The manager and staff work closely with parents to ensure they are kept well informed about their children's progress, and the activities they have been involved in. This enables parents to continue to support their children's learning and at home.
- The manager has built a strong working relationship with the adjacent school. This gives children access to additional learning opportunities and supports their personal and social development well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

 On occasions, in adult-led activities, the groups are too large and some children lose interest and fail to engage effectively in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 ensure the size of groups for adult-led activities are manageable to enable all children to participate fully and engage in learning as well as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with a group of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed a range of activities inside and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector talked to the children, and held discussions with all staff present.
- The inspector sampled some of the playgroup's documentation.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy play leader.

Inspector

Edgar Hastings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is forward thinking in sharing her leadership roles with senior staff as part of their development. Staff are now empowered and well prepared to take over the lead role should the occasion arise. Together, staff and committee have identified areas for development, and have obtained a grant to make further improvements to the outdoor area. Staff undergo regular performance management to assess their effectiveness and to identify areas for development. They undertake further training to support their development of knowledge and skills, including storytelling techniques and methods of recording children's progress. The manager works in close partnership with other childcare providers in the area to support children who are cared for jointly. Safeguarding is effective. All staff undertake regular safeguarding training and are conversant with the child protection policy. They are familiar with the procedures to follow should there be any concerns over the welfare of the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan daily activities to support all children based on their interests. These now include large group activities, although there is room for further improvement in how these are organised. With parents, staff identify children's individual needs and interests. They make detailed observations to assess children's progress and to identify their next steps in learning. Staff accurately monitor children's progress and identify where there are any gaps in their learning. Children whose home language is not English are supported well. Effective strategies ensure they feel fully included. Parents and staff enjoy celebrating the 'wow' moments of children's achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff develop strong and warm relationships with children, who feel secure in the safe environment. Children develop the values of kindness, courtesy and respect for each other, and for adults, because staff place a strong emphasis on this part of their social development. Behaviour is good because staff use effective strategies to encourage children to share and take turns. A strong focus on doing things for themselves, such as tidying away toys after use, encourages children to develop appropriate levels of independence. Staff encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles through healthy eating, and to wash their hands before eating and after messy play. The provision of daily outdoor activities allows children to benefit from being physically active.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop self-help skills and learn to play cooperatively with others. Children count to at least 10 and use a range of writing materials. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY465344

Local authority Gloucestershire

Inspection number 1069475

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 16

Number of children on roll 51

Name of registered person Hucclecote Playgroup Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP909636

Date of previous inspection 28 April 2014

Telephone number 07592020541

Hucclecote Playgroup opened in 1972 and re-registered in 2013 in new premises. It is managed by a voluntary committee of parents. The playgroup operates from The Bungalow situated on the grounds of Dinglewell Infant School in the Hucclecote area of Gloucester. The playgroup is open each weekday during term times. Sessions operate from 9am to 2.45pm on Monday and Friday, and from 9am to 11.30am and 11.45am to 2.45pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. The playgroup employs five staff to work directly with the children and an administrator and premises officer. All childcare staff hold appropriate qualifications to level 2 or 3.

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