

Cogenhoe Playgroup

Cogenhoe & Whiston Village Hall, York Avenue, Cogenhoe, Northampton,
Northamptonshire, NN7 1NB



Inspection date	28 February 2017
Previous inspection date	5 December 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 offers children a welcoming environment where they can participate in a broad range of interesting activities. This, together with well-qualified staff who have the support of a dedicated committee, helps to raise outcomes for children.
- The manager is committed and conscientious. She is a reflective practitioner who takes account of the views of children, parents and staff, in order to identify targets for future development.
- Partnership with parents is very strong. Parents are kept regularly informed about the progress that their children are making through termly summaries and meetings. Furthermore, parents receive monthly newsletters and are invited to attend stay-and-play sessions.
- Staff closely observe children as they play. This helps them to make accurate assessments of children's current developmental stage and plan appropriate next steps in their learning.
- Children form close attachments to staff. They seek them out when they need comfort or reassurance. This supports children's well-being and self-esteem.
- Children's behaviour is good. They are polite and courteous. Staff encourage children to help one another, take turns and share their toys.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Practitioners do not always focus on providing older children with high levels of challenge during activities to help to build on what they already know.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities to provide older children with greater levels of challenge during their play so that they make more rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of an activity with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ann Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The committee and staff work very well together as a team. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what to do if they have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child in their care. Effective policies and procedures and risk assessments ensure that children are kept safe and secure at all times. Recruitment of staff is robust. Regular supervision meetings help to ensure their ongoing suitability. Training courses that staff attend have a positive impact on the quality of learning experiences for all children. For example, recent training has led to communication-friendly areas being created. This helps to promote children's speaking and listening skills. Parents speak very highly of the care and learning opportunities that the setting offers their children. Partnerships with outside professionals and other childcare settings that children attend are well established.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Staff interact well with children. They spend time talking to them about what they have done at home and what they would like to do at the playgroup. This helps to develop the link for children between home and the playgroup. Children are able to make choices over whether they participate in small-group activities. They help a member of staff make a quantity of soft dough. Children's mathematical development is supported as they take turns to pour in flour and salt and gauge the quantity of water that is required. Staff help children to decide the colour they would like to add to the dough. When an agreement cannot be arrived at, the member of staff skilfully suggests that they see what happens if they mix two colours together. Children delight in the outcome of the experiment. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop their creative and imaginative skills. Children work cooperatively, listening to each other's suggestions as they make elaborate dens from sheets and cushions. Later in the session, other children use the den to sit quietly and look at books.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff constantly praise children for their efforts and achievements. Children are provided with lots of opportunities to develop their independence skills. They are encouraged to do things for themselves. Children can choose where and what they play with, as resources are easily and freely accessible. Children are supported to take care of their own personal needs. They know that they must wash their hands before they have their snack. A box for boots enables children to independently find their own boots before they play in the outdoor area. Children are learning the importance of developing a healthy lifestyle. Snacks provided are nutritious. Children have lots of opportunities to spend time in the fresh air. Regular walks in the local community help children to learn about the environment beyond that of the playgroup.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those for whom the setting receives additional funding, are making good progress. Any gaps in children's learning are quickly closed. Children are motivated and engaged in their play, both inside and outdoors. They are gaining key skills that will prepare them for the next stage in their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220193
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1063723
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	26
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Cogenhoe Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522921
Date of previous inspection	5 December 2013
Telephone number	07842 548367

Cogenhoe Playgroup was registered in 1970. The playgroup employs three members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 3, 4 or 6. The playgroup opens from Monday to Thursday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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