

St John's Playgroup

St Johns C E Junior & Infant School, Leymoor Road, Golcar, HUDDERSFIELD, HD7 4QQ



Inspection date

7 March 2017

Previous inspection date

7 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 have strong partnerships with parents and other providers. They successfully promote a shared approach to children's care and learning. Accurate assessments identify strengths and gaps in children's development. The playgroup is proactive in seeking advice from other professionals for children who need additional support.
- The provider monitors staff's practice well. She accurately identifies strengths and areas for improvement. She has taken effective action to address previously identified weaknesses and to raise the provision to a good standard. Professional development opportunities help staff to continually improve their skills.
- Key persons are very knowledgeable about each child's stage of development. Some staff demonstrate outstanding teaching practice. They are highly enthusiastic and motivating. They make excellent use of opportunities to challenge children's thinking and fully explore children's imagination and creativity.
- A well established key-person system helps children to form strong bonds with staff. Children settle easily and are happy as they play. The moves from home to playgroup and into school are planned very well to make sure children's emotional well-being is maintained.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff make the best use of the outdoor environment to provide rich, varied and imaginative experiences. This means children who prefer to play and learn outdoors are not fully supported to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer children who prefer to play outdoors more varied and imaginative experiences to help them extend their learning.

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 a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke with several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Robust recruitment procedures are used to check that all staff and members of the committee are suitable for their role. Procedures to protect children are implemented successfully. Staff have a good understanding of current child protection issues and how to keep children safe. The provider closely monitors the progress of individual children and groups of children. Information about children's progress is frequently shared with parents. The playgroup provides them with resources and shares ideas with them to promote children's learning through play at home. The indoor environment is well resourced to capture children's curiosity and encourage them to investigate. The provider seeks the views of parents and uses their feedback to further improve the service the playgroup provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan the day well to provide a good balance of adult-led activity and child-initiated play. Communication and language are promoted very successfully. Staff listen perceptively to children's lines of questioning. They encourage them to share their ideas and help them to make connections between their learning experiences. Staff build on and extend vocabulary by introducing new words, such as fragile. Children are encouraged to think critically. For example, they investigate and talk about why wet sand can be used differently to dry sand. Staff skilfully extend children's learning by reshaping tasks to build on what they already know.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident in this welcoming and lively environment. They show pride as they talk about their work and their friends. Positive behaviour is promoted as staff recognise and praise good behaviour. They are good role models and give children clear guidance about right and wrong. Children play outdoors in all weathers. Good health and hygiene practices are promoted through everyday routines. Parents enjoy staying to play with their children and taking part in playgroup trips. They accompany their children to picnics in the park and travel on the train to visit the wider community or to enjoy treats at the ice-cream parlour.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress from their initial starting points and attaining the skills they need for their future learning in school. They make choices about their play. They enjoy each other's company and make firm friendships. Children develop early literacy skills. They use a range of materials to practise early writing. They begin to recognise familiar letters in print. Children develop mathematical skills. They learn to add and subtract and experiment with weight and measure. Children learn about their community and the wider world through stories and role play. They develop their independence in personal care routines, ready for the eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311284
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	1086072
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	24
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	St John's Church School Playgroup Golcar Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP909055
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2016
Telephone number	07976650452

St John's Playgroup was registered in 1984. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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