

The Kennington Playgroup

Kennington Playgroup, The Avenue, Kennington, OXFORD, OX1 5PP



Inspection date	14 March 2017
Previous inspection date	14 January 2015

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 has developed effective systems to track carefully children's progress. Staff work closely with specialist professionals and other providers, to close any identified gaps in children's learning and to support those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities consistently.
- The manager prioritises children's safety. For instance, she keeps parents informed of changes, such as car seat laws, and ensures that the environment is safe.
- Children make good progress from their starting points and are well-prepared for their next stage in learning. They are curious, motivated learners and make confident choices in their play.
- Staff challenge children's mathematical understanding skilfully. For example, they support children's understanding of number as they play and explore, and help them understand concepts, such as symmetry and simple fractions.
- Staff create a fun and engaging environment with lots of opportunities and quality resources for children to play with, explore and make new discoveries.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not identified some inconsistencies in staff practice to raise the quality of teaching and learning to the highest level.
- The manager has not fully considered ways parents can contribute to the self-evaluation to identify further improvements to the provision.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the quality of teaching and learning more closely to identify how practice can be improved even further to achieve the highest level of learning experiences for all children consistently
- improve ways for parents to contribute their views to the self-evaluation to help identify improvements and extend the good partnerships with parents even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices, and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager provides opportunities for staff to extend their professional knowledge. For example, following recent training, staff have reviewed methods to help children manage their feelings and behaviour. Overall, the manager identifies areas for improvement well. She has worked with other providers to make changes to the transition process to extend support for children starting school. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to protect children and know the procedures to follow should they have any child protection concerns. The manager ensures that thorough risk assessments of the play areas take place to protect children's safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of children's interests and next steps in learning, and use this information to provide exciting activities that encourage children to explore and investigate. They keep parents informed about their children's progress to support continued learning at home. Staff are skilled in helping children develop their communication skills. For example, they adapt their methods and use of language to meet the needs of children at different stages of development. Staff support children's understanding of the world effectively. They help children use books to learn more about insects they find, and encourage children to explore where animals live.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have lots of opportunities to explore and lead their own play and staff encourage them to become inquisitive learners. Staff are attentive, nurturing and children are happy and secure. Children behave well and staff use effective methods to encourage children to listen to, and respect each other. Staff have created a culture which celebrates diversity and ensures that everyone feels valued. For example, staff involve the children in a range of exciting local community events. Staff support children's good health effectively. They encourage parents to provide healthy lunch boxes, children learn about good hygiene practices and have lots of opportunities to be physically active.

Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate perseverance and enjoy solving problems. They benefit from time and space to solve puzzles independently, and concentrate as they complete threading challenges. They develop good social skills and enjoy playing with their friends. They race on scooters, share their good ideas and make plans together. Children acquire good early literacy skills, such as recognising their names and practising their writing. They enjoy expressing their creative ideas. For example, they make links with their own experiences in their role-play and explore a range of painting techniques.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133403
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1085738
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	32
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Kennington Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518830
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2015
Telephone number	01865 326606

The Kennington Playgroup registered in 1993. It operates in the grounds of St. Swithun's School, Kennington, Oxfordshire. The playgroup is open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm and Fridays from 9am to 12.30pm, during term time. A breakfast club operates weekdays from 8am to 8.45am for children from the local school. There are fourteen staff, of whom eight hold qualifications at level 3 and two are qualified at level 2. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two-, three- and four-years.

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