

# Stafford Leys Playgroup

Stafford Leys Cp School, Stafford Leys, Leicester Forest East, LEICESTER, LE3 3LJ



## Inspection date

13 March 2017

Previous inspection date

28 June 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 manager of the playgroup and staff team are very experienced at working with children and their families. They demonstrate that they have a good knowledge of children and how to promote their development.
- Staff are caring and form strong relationships with children. This ensures that children feel safe in the playgroup and supports their emotional development. Children enjoy talking to staff about their own experiences.
- Children are well prepared for school. They have developed key skills that support them in the next stage of their learning. Staff have formed very good relationships with the on-site school, particularly the foundation stage team.
- Policies and procedures are understood by staff and implemented effectively. Staff are committed to safeguarding children and have a secure knowledge of how to protect them.
- Children enjoy a wide variety of activities and clearly show their engagement in their play. They enjoy joining in with their friends and involve them in their chosen play activities.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Assessments do not always provide staff with the best information to accurately track children's progress. As a result, children's development is not maximised.
- Children's access to the outdoor area is not always when children need it most. This means that occasionally some children, particularly boys, do not have consistent opportunities to release some of their physical energy.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine assessment strategies in order to more accurately plan activities according to children's individual learning needs and next steps in development, to help children to make more rapid progress
- improve children's access to the outdoor area to enable them to exercise and release physical energy on a more consistent basis.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor play areas and the outdoor learning environment. He conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager of the playgroup. He spoke with staff and children throughout the inspection, when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, the setting's risk assessments and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working within the playgroup, self-evaluation and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

**Inspector**  
Ben Hartley

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager uses her experience and knowledge to ensure that the playgroup delivers a high-quality service. She understands safer recruitment and staff undertake additional checks to determine their ongoing suitability. All staff have attended safeguarding and first-aid training. This helps to ensure that children are kept safe within the playgroup. The playgroup has developed good partnerships with parents and a very good partnership with the school that it operates within the grounds of. Parents comment very positively on the quality of the care that their children receive and the warmth of the staff. They also feel that it has been good for their children's development. The relationship staff have with the school enables them to gather a good understanding of what the school expects of the children in their Reception year. Staff reflect on the quality of their own practice and the overall practice within the playgroup, and identify areas that can be developed further.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are skilled in supporting children's learning. They involve themselves in children's play at appropriate times, asking questions to extend their understanding and to help support their ideas. Staff also model good language which helps children develop their communication skills and improve their vocabulary. The environment indoors is used well to provide children with a range of experiences and activities. Children particularly enjoy playing with cornflour, mixing colours and making predications about what might happen. Children also enjoy planting various seeds and discussing what happened when they had planted seeds before. Staff change activities within the room readily to keep the environment fresh and use a range of resources and different games to keep children engaged in learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are offered a wide range of healthy snacks, mainly different fruits. Staff also ask children about their preferences in food and discuss the benefits of healthy eating. The overall atmosphere in the playgroup is calm and children respond well to instructions from staff. The playgroup uses the outdoor area that is attached to the foundation stage of the school, at specific times of the day, mainly just before children go home. However, other opportunities for children to play outside are sometimes limited. Children's physical development is promoted through some specific resources indoors that enable them to climb and manoeuvre around equipment.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. They gain a good range of skills in preparation for school when the time comes. Children are gaining a wide range of skills that help them prepare for school. Staff use the local environment to help support children's learning and broaden their experiences. For example, children have recently enjoyed visiting a pond and looking for frogspawn.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	226483
<b>Local authority</b>	Leicestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1063780
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	3 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	20
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Doreen Rushin & Beverley Jones Partnership
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP910386
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28 June 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	0116 2392395

Stafford Leys Playgroup was registered in 1977 and is situated within Stafford Leys Primary School. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until midday.

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