

Warren Playgroup

St. Peters Church Hall, Church Lane, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9NY



Inspection date

16 March 2017

Previous inspection date

13 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

- Staff support children's personal and emotional development effectively. Children gain strong social skills and learn to behave well. They are very happy, confident and motivated to learn.
- Parent partnerships are good. Staff use effective ways to involve parents in all aspects of their children's learning. For example, they regularly encourage parents to share their children's learning and experiences from home.
- The manager and staff know children well and observe their development closely. They monitor the progress of individual and groups of children and quickly identify any gaps in development. Children make good progress from their starting points in learning.
- The manager makes good use of self-evaluation. She actively seeks the views of staff, parents and other professionals to help make ongoing improvements.
- Staff support children's language development well. For example, they encourage plenty of conversation and ask interesting questions to encourage children's thinking.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager misses opportunities to strengthen monitoring processes further, in particular, to help raise the quality of staff teaching to a consistently higher level.
- At times, staff do not make full use of planning to focus more sharply on children's next steps in learning to help them make the very best progress they can.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on processes for monitoring the quality of teaching to help raise staff practice to the highest level possible
- make better use of planning systems, in particular, to focus more sharply on ways to support all children work more rapidly towards the next steps in their learning and make even greater progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact this has 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 completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff regularly identify areas for further improvement that benefit children's outcomes. For example, they have improved the way they support children's mathematical understanding outdoors. Staff added new number lines and children helped to create shapes to hang in the environment. Overall, the manager supports staff well to keep their skills up to date, such as through accessing relevant training. She runs regular staff meetings, and introduces new ideas and discusses good practice. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend safeguarding training and have a thorough and up-to-date understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns. The manager and staff effectively assess and minimise risks to children, helping to create a safe environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff effectively use children's interests to help provide activities that engage and motivate them in their learning. For example, children enjoyed pretending to be a family in the role-play home corner. Staff supported children well and encouraged them to think about what to make for dinner and what ingredients they needed. Staff encourage children's early literacy skills well and read stories interactively. For example, children enjoyed talking about what might happen next and staff introduced new words, such as 'catapulted'. Staff effectively encourage children's ideas. For instance, while talking about chicks, they asked children where chicks might live and what they might eat.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very caring and attentive to children's needs. They settle them in well and form strong bonds with them. Children consistently receive warm praise and encouragement throughout their play and take pride in their achievements. For example, they celebrate together as they finish building tall towers. Children develop a strong sense of independence. For instance, they cut up fruit for their snack and find their names to show they have arrived in the morning. Staff provide children with lots of fun physical opportunities to be active and to help promote their good health. For example, children enjoyed spinning hoops around their bodies and riding on balance bikes in the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children spend a good time engaged in meaningful play. They concentrate well and take their time carefully building with blocks. Children enjoy creative activities and explore their ideas well. For example, they carefully use a wide variety of resources to create their own chicks. Children have a good understanding of technology, for example, they confidently complete simple computer games. They enjoy exploring musical instruments and playing along to music. Children confidently express themselves and quickly learn the skills needed for the next stage in their learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113813
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1085706
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	25
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	The Warren Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523388
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2015
Telephone number	01273 495076

Warren Playgroup registered in 2000. It operates from the church hall in Henfield, West Sussex. The setting is open between 9.15am and 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and between 9.15am and 1pm on Thursday and Friday, during term time. The setting employs eight staff. Of these, six hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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