

The Dawnay Playgroup

The Dawnay School, Griffin Way, Bookham, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT23 4JJ



Inspection date	17 March 2017
Previous inspection date	29 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 quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified staff team engages children in purposeful learning experiences, which supports their individual needs and interests.
- Partnership with parents is strong. For example, parents comment that staff are very nurturing and support their children well to settle when they first attend.
- Children are happy and settled. They have positive relationships with each other and adults, which helps foster a strong sense of security and emotional well-being.
- Staff observe, track and assess individual children's progress and use their findings to identify their next steps in learning. All children make good progress.
- Highly effective links are established with the school, which helps to provide continuity for children's welfare and development.
- Leadership and management are strong. The management team evaluates the quality of the provision effectively, to recognise strengths and identify areas for improvement. There is a low turnover of staff and they work well as a team.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Individual children's progress is tracked well. However, staff are still in the process of fully developing systems to check the progress of different groups of children to help close any gaps in their learning more quickly.
- At times, the staff do not make the best use of technology resources to extend children's learning fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to embed plans to monitor children's learning, in particular to check closely the progress of groups of children, to help address more precisely any gaps in their learning
- review the organisation of technology resources in order to provide greater opportunities for children to access these during everyday play situations, to help them make even better progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector talked to children and staff and observed them in the indoor and the outdoor area.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector sampled documentation in relation to observations, planning, children's assessments and safety, including suitability checks and qualifications.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the systems used to evaluate the playgroup.

Inspector

Joanne Allen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers implement effective recruitment, vetting and induction procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. They conduct risk assessments effectively to enable children to explore and learn in a safe environment. Staff have a good awareness of the signs that may indicate a child being at risk of harm and they know their role and responsibility to report any concerns. Staff receive support from the management team and have regular training opportunities, to help them to expand their knowledge. Staff regularly evaluate the service they provide, and they take into account the views of parents, to make further improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They engage in meaningful conversations with the children and they speak clearly to them. For example, they join in with children's play, listen to their ideas and question them well to promote their thinking skills. Children are confident to lead their own play and they happily play together. For example, they enjoy working together to build an outdoor den and make mud pies in the outdoor kitchen. Children's literacy skills develop well, they learn the sounds that letters represent and recognise their own names. Strong partnerships are in place with parents, who are fully involved in contributing to their children's assessments and development. Parents speak highly about how their children are gaining confidence.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have developed a strong and effective keyperson system and this helps children settle easily. The atmosphere is warm and welcoming, and staff show enthusiasm and affection towards the children. Children's behaviour is good. Staff celebrate children's individual achievements and praise their efforts. Children learn to value and respect others as they celebrate a range of cultural events during the year, for example. Children develop healthy lifestyles. They learn about good hygiene procedures and the importance of healthy food. Children benefit from lots of time outside and have good opportunities to practise their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, all children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They remain engaged in the activities they choose, such as threading and playdough, for long periods of time, persevering until they have finished them to their satisfaction. Children achieve good mathematical skills and understanding. They count reliably and recognise shapes and colours. Children successfully develop important skills in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122569
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1085718
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	The Dawnay Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910867
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2015
Telephone number	01372 453796

The Dawnay Playgroup registered 1996. It is managed by a committee and operates from a classroom situated within The Dawnay School, in Bookham. It opens each weekday during term time from 9am to 12pm, with options for extended hours until 3pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup employs seven members of staff; of these, five have appropriate early years qualification.

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