

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

School Lane, Fittleworth, Nr Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1JB



Inspection date	28 April 2017
Previous inspection date	30 June 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 make good use of children's observations to help them plan activities. Staff have a secure knowledge of children's interests and use this to plan the environment. Children enjoy learning and make good progress.
- The manager is reflective and identifies ways to improve. For example, the introduction of hot lunches has seen an improvement in children's eating habits and social skills.
- The manager and staff have strong partnerships with parents. They share information about children from the setting and home, to help provide a consistent approach to learning. Parents say that this has been more effective since the introduction of an online observation and assessment system.
- Children behave well, they are kind and considerate and understand what is expected from them. For example, they use timers to take turns and share resources.
- Staff have good relationships with other settings that children attend and local schools. For example, they share information about children's learning and encourage visits to each other to observe children in different environments.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, some staff miss opportunities to develop children's mathematical skills, such as their knowledge of numbers.
- During some routine times, children are not able to engage as effectively as possible, for instance, when the group size is too large.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further opportunities to extend children's knowledge and understanding of early mathematics
- consider the organisation of daily group times, to ensure all children are able to take part and engage fully in planned activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff's interactions with children indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and held further discussions about her role.
- The inspector sampled written documentation, including children's development records, policies and procedures, and risk assessments.
- The inspector spoke to some parents to gain their views on the setting and staff.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Hannah Barter

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a suitable knowledge of what to do if they have concerns about a child's safety. The manager ensures staff receive training and share information during meetings to enable others to benefit from additional knowledge. The manager fully supports staff in developing their skills and knowledge. For example, some staff have undertaken training and developed their skills in promoting children's language. This has had a positive impact on staffs teaching. For example, staff skilfully use a range of questioning techniques and allow children time to respond. The manager monitors children's progress well. She works closely with staff to track children's development and supports them in closing gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's learning well. They provide the tools they need to lead their play and allow them time to use their imaginations. For example, while children played with trucks, staff showed them a book and encouraged them to identify the similarities. Staff read to children enthusiastically and then suggested extending the play to the sand pit outside. Children were excited to see the marks they could make with their wheels and talked confidently about what they were doing. Staff provide non-mobile children with space to encourage early movements, such as crawling. Staff praise them for their efforts and place some resources just out of reach to encourage more movement. Children decorate pictures and confidently use glue, glitter and pens to make marks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settle quickly into the routine when they arrive. They have secure relationships with staff who are attentive and caring. Children have continuous access to the outdoors where they confidently use climbing equipment and practise their balancing skills. For example, they walk across ropes and climb up ladders. Children have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, they know they must hold onto the 'fireman's pole' before jumping down. Children demonstrate strong independence skills and understand how to use knives safely. Children know that they must cut round fruit, such as blueberries, in half 'so it makes them safer to eat'.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in preparation for future learning and their move to school. Children are developing good problem-solving skills and work together to achieve an outcome. For example, children made a ramp and discussed the best way for them to cross it without falling off. Children have a good understanding of how letters are formed, for example, they helped staff write a list of their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113489
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1089107
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	31
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Fittleworth and District Playgroup
Registered person unique reference number	RP522724
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2015
Telephone number	01798 865 777

Fittleworth & District Playgroup is managed by a voluntary committee of parents and registered in 1992. The setting is next to the village school within the village of Fittleworth in Pulborough, West Sussex. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting opens Monday to Friday during term time only, from 8.45am until 3.30pm. The setting has a team of nine staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications and one member of staff is a qualified teacher.

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