

Colwich Playgroup

Colwich Community Centre, Main Road, Colwich, STAFFORD, ST17 0XD



Inspection date

22 May 2017

Previous inspection date

11 October 2016

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Requires Improvement | 3 |
| 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

- Since the last inspection, the manager and staff have successfully embedded systems to identify children's next steps in learning. They plan activities to extend children's learning and development that are appropriate for their age and ability.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff successfully engage parents in their children's learning from the start. Ongoing sharing of information helps to support continuity in children's care, learning and development.
- Staff provide children with lots of praise and encouragement. This helps to support their emotional well-being. Children are confident and take pride in their achievements.
- Staff monitor children's progress carefully and quickly identify any gaps in their learning. Plans to provide additional support for children are swiftly implemented to ensure they make good progress.
- Staff effectively support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They form good working relationships with parents and other professionals to ensure that children's specific needs are effectively met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide enough opportunities for children to develop their own ideas, be creative and solve problems.
- Existing systems for self-evaluation do not yet clearly prioritise actions and improvements that have the most impact on the outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop their own ideas, be creative and solve problems to extend their learning further
- strengthen self-evaluation systems to more precisely identify and prioritise areas for improvement and measure the impact on outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what action to take if they are concerned about the welfare of a child in their care. They demonstrate a good understanding of child protection matters. Staff recruitment procedures are robust and help to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. The manager implements regular supervision meetings and provides coaching and training to help support and further staff's knowledge and skills. Parents are very complimentary about the dedicated, friendly and supportive staff. Children settle quickly and enjoy their time at the playgroup.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

A good range of activities is provided that reflects children's interests and supports their individual learning. Staff demonstrate good teaching skills as they play alongside children and help to extend their learning. They give clear explanations and ask questions that make children think. For example, staff help children to recognise shapes and understand the difference between solid and flat shapes. They work together to count the sides of a shape and compare them with other shapes. Outside, children enjoy developing their writing skills as they make lists and ask staff what they would like to eat and drink. Staff help younger children to develop their counting skills and number recognition. For example, children count the numbered fish and ducks in the water tray.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved and demonstrate they feel safe and secure. They can explain some of the rules of the playgroup, such as walking inside and playing nicely with others. Staff are sensitive to the needs of individual children. They are consistent in implementing agreed strategies to support children. For example, staff gently calm and reassure children who are learning to control their emotions. Children develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles. They are encouraged to manage their own self-help skills and care routines, such as toileting and handwashing. Children are provided with a healthy snack and freely access water throughout the session. Staff explain to the children the importance of wearing a sun hat as they go outside to play in the sun.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress during their time at the playgroup. This includes children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children are confident and are developing good social skills. Staff develop their communication and language skills during small-group times. For example, they share stories and talk about events at home. Older children have good levels of concentration and listen carefully. They are interested in counting and early calculations. Strong and supportive links with the local school help to ensure children have the skills required for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY444338 |
| Local authority | Staffordshire |
| Inspection number | 1076471 |
| 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 | 2 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 24 |
| Number of children on roll | 34 |
| Name of registered person | Colwich Playgroup Committee |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP520989 |
| Date of previous inspection | 11 October 2016 |
| Telephone number | 01889 883400 |

Colwich Playgroup registered in 2012. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds early years professional status. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3.15pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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