Shipdham Playgroup



Thomas Bullock School, Pound Green Lane, SHIPDHAM, Norfolk, IP25 7LF

Inspection date Previous inspection date	8 June 2017 15 September 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 worked hard to develop their skills and raise the quality of provision. Staff assess children's development and use this information plan an appropriate range of interesting and challenging activities.
- Staff form strong relationships with the children. They know them well and take account of their individual needs. This means children settle quickly into the playgroup and feel secure.
- Teaching is good. Staff understand how children learn. Consequently, all children are making good progress.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models for children. They use positive language and give gentle reminders about expectations for their behaviour. Consequently, the atmosphere in the playgroup is calm and conducive to learning.
- Staff provide a stimulating environment, both indoors and outdoors, with a variety of opportunities and resources for play and exploration.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the manager has introduced a system for tracking children's progress, this is not yet refined enough to inform more rigorous analysis of the impact of teaching and intervention for different groups of children.
- On occasions, staff do not make optimum use of opportunities to challenge children's thinking and promote their learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the tracking of children's progress, in order to inform more-rigorous analysis of the impact of teaching and intervention for different groups of children
- exploit every opportunity to further promote the development of children's thinking skills.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. They looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Effective recruitment and induction procedures check that staff are suitable and understand their role. Staff are suitably trained and have a thorough understanding of the playgroup's safeguarding policy. They are aware of the designated person within the playgroup and know who to make a referral to if they are concerned about a child's welfare. This contributes towards keeping children safe. The manager carries out regular supervision meetings with staff and all staff attend regular team meetings. This helps to ensure that staff continue to understand their roles and responsibilities. Effective partnerships with parents and other professionals help to provide a consistent approach to children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of their key children. They plan learning experiences that are based on children's interests to fully support their play and learning. For example, children enjoy predicting how far the balls will travel down the ramps they have made outside. Staff skilfully extend children's mathematical knowledge. For example, they support children to recognise numerals on a dice and introduce concepts, such as more and less during a number game. Parents are kept well informed about the progress of their children through the electronic data system used by the playgroup and daily communication. This helps promote continuity of care and learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly in this warm, caring, friendly environment. They form secure attachments with friendly staff, who truly foster their emotional well-being. Staff give lots of praise to children during activities, supporting their good self-esteem. Information gained from parents is used well to tailor experiences to meet the individual care needs of each child. Children learn to lead healthy lifestyles. They enjoy a variety of nutritious snacks. The outdoor area provides exciting play opportunities for all ages and effectively supports children who prefer to play and learn outside. Toys and resources are arranged well, this helps to inspire children's curiosity and independence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children benefit from a wealth of opportunities that supports their all-round development. All children make good progress from their starting points. They develop key skills that will help them continue to learn at school. For example, they are able to sit and concentrate on the activities they do, develop good independence and are confident in expressing their needs and thoughts. Children are curious and enthusiastic learners who show a lively interest in new experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254262	
Local authority	Norfolk	
Inspection number	1074289	
Type of provision	Full-time provision	
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic	
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register	
Age range of children	2 - 5	
Total number of places	24	
Number of children on roll	34	
Name of registered person	Shipdham Playgroup Committee	
Registered person unique reference number	RP523701	
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2016	
Telephone number	01362 822062	

Shipdham Playgroup registered in 1993. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, two at level 4 and one at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm.

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