

Bright Sparks Playgroup at Empingham



Empingham C of E Primary School, School Lane, Empingham, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 8PQ

Inspection date

22 June 2017

Previous inspection date

13 February 2014

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

- Teaching is effective. Staff provide a wide range of activities and resources which engages children's attention. Staff make good use of planned and child-initiated activities to introduce children to new experiences. Children achieve well across all areas of learning.
- Children build strong relationships with each other and the staff. They are confident and enjoy meeting with and talking to the older children in the school. Younger children form good attachments to staff.
- The provider leads the small staff team effectively. They work closely with parents and carers so that they can share in their children's learning.
- Staff promote children's good health well. Children enjoy sharing and talking about different fruits, and happily clean their teeth after lunch.
- Children can move around the setting freely and safely. They make good use of the indoor and outdoor space. Children love to explore the playing field and watch the cows.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The provider does not always precisely monitor the impact of staff's teaching skills on practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement rigorous monitoring of all aspects of playgroup practice, in order to enable staff to clearly target improvements and continue to strengthen practice.

Inspection activities

- 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 provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Judith Chinnery

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider and staff are committed to providing good-quality care and education for all children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know how to protect the children in their care. They know who to report to should they have any concerns. Effective procedures are also in place to help staff keep children safe, such as suitable risk assessments. Staff take up training and use the information they gain to improve their practice. The provider and staff seek feedback from parents and evaluate their provision regularly. Improvements made to the outdoor provision and role-play areas benefit children's learning in these areas. Staff have formed a strong relationship with the school and provide good support for children moving on.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They adjust activities to meet the needs of older and younger children. Activities are planned effectively. Staff consider children's interests and take account of what they need to do next. Observations and assessments are accurately completed and shared with parents. Staff use large-group times with the children well. They choose stories which engage and involve children. Staff encourage children to count each other and compare the number of boys and girls present. Children are encouraged to listen to different sounds and recognise the letters at the beginning of their names.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are keen to get involved in activities as soon as they arrive at the setting. They are encouraged to be independent. Younger children readily have a go at putting on their own coats. Older children take themselves to the bathroom. Children love to run and chase bubbles across the school playing field as well as explore the wild flowers looking for bugs. Children willingly try different fruits, have a go cutting up their own food and talk about being healthy. Children happily eat their packed lunches in the school hall with the older school children. They enjoy saying 'hello' to their older siblings and learning about their new classrooms ready for when they go into the main school. Older children are caring and like to help the younger children with tasks, such as washing their hands.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are gaining good skills in readiness for school. The youngest children enjoy finding cars and naming the different play foods. Older children are interested in time. They use the sand timer to time how long the slime takes to drip from their fingers. They are also learning about quantity. The older children recognise when they have more than or less than, when they compare groups of objects. Children enjoy dressing up and are good at using their imagination. They take their toy animals to the vets and go on long journeys in the car.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254363
Local authority	Rutland
Inspection number	1087725
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	0 - 3
Total number of places	21
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Gail Healey
Registered person unique reference number	RP908500
Date of previous inspection	13 February 2014
Telephone number	01572 812124

Bright Sparks Playgroup registered in 1992. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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