

St. Chads Playgroup

Methodist Church, Liverpool Road, Red Street, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST5 7AF



Inspection date

12 July 2017

Previous inspection date

7 May 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

- Staff organise an environment and routine which provides good opportunities for children to learn, play and take part in enjoyable whole group activities.
- Staff spend time getting to know their assigned key children and identify any gaps in their learning to help them make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff place a high priority on giving parents time to discuss their children's achievements and care needs daily. They use this information well to promote children's emotional well-being and educational needs.
- Staff provide a rich range of opportunities for children to extend their early speaking, writing and reading skills.
- The environment is safe and clean and staff adopt a good range of strategies to prevent the spread of infection.
- The manager takes a lead in developing strong links with the nursery school that the children attend and the school that children move on to to promote their well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The leadership team do not use stringent monitoring systems to help further raise the quality of teaching and care to an exceptional level.
- Staff do not always provide a rich range of activities to enthuse even further the children's interest in weight, measurement and technology.
- Staff do not use a highly motivating range of strategies to help each child develop high levels of self-control.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use a more stringent range of monitoring systems to help further raise the quality of teaching and care to an exceptional level
- provide a richer range of activities to enthuse even further the children's interest in weight, measurement and technology
- use a highly motivating range of strategies to help each child develop high levels of self-control.

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

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff undergo robust recruitment and induction procedures and benefit from ongoing training opportunities, to ensure they are suitable and are clear about their roles and responsibilities. All staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and the procedure to follow if they are concerned about a child. The manager works alongside the staff and regularly observes the quality of teaching and areas for further development are clearly identified. Overall, parents report high levels of satisfaction. They report their children are happy and have made good progress and feel staff support their children well in preparation for school or nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff place a strong focus on providing opportunities for children to speak and listen attentively to what children have to say. For example, staff use morning registration as a good opportunity for children to share their news and they are eager to tell the group about their experiences and home life. Staff use interesting strategies to encourage children to learn. For example, staff use the 'season tree' as a tool for children to observe and learn about the changing seasons and build their interest in the natural environment. Staff use the outdoor area well to provide children with a challenging range of physical play opportunities and for them to freely explore and investigate. Staff regularly observe children to find out what they can do and enjoy and use this information well to extend their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy the routine and have close relationships with staff and their health and emotional well-being is given good regard. Staff provide a healthy snack and any individual dietary requirements are met well. Mealtime is used well, for example, children learn about which foods are healthy as staff encourage them to eat their healthy options first from their lunch boxes and children learn to socialise. Children respond well to changes in the routine. For example, children quickly line up to wash their hands and know the shaking of the tambourine means it is soon time to finish playing. Children learn how to keep safe outdoors and what rules are in place for their safety. Staff teach children about their own and others' families and how they are different.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those receiving additional funding, make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their next stage of learning. For example, children thoroughly enjoy the daily phonics session and the varied range of experiences on offer to encourage them to make marks and write. They are confident speakers and enjoy listening to others. Children easily adopt roles in their role-play area as they play their imaginary games, such as in the popular ice-cream parlour. Children enjoy counting during activities and begin to recognise numbers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218229
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1088281
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 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	St Chads Playgroup (Newcastle) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520142
Date of previous inspection	7 May 2014
Telephone number	07716 829539

St. Chads Playgroup registered in 1992 and is located in Newcastle, Staffordshire. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 3pm during school term times. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four staff hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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