

Bathampton Playgroup

Bathampton Village Hall, Holcombe Lane, Bathampton, Bath, Avon, BA2 6UL



Inspection date

13 September 2017

Previous inspection date

1 March 2017

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

- The manager has introduced positive changes to the setting since the last inspection. She has improved the monitoring of children's attendance and checks are in place to ensure staff's ongoing suitability. This helps to keep children safe.
- Staff stimulate children's interest in books well. For instance, they read stories that children already know and question them skilfully to help them think about what happens next. This supports children to build on their early literacy skills successfully.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff ensure they inform parents about their children's learning in the setting. Parents speak highly of the staff team and the care their children receive.
- Children are independent and tend to their own self-care needs well. They relish the opportunity to help with snack-time preparations. Children are confident, self-assured and demonstrate good behaviour at all times.
- The manager and staff reflect on and evaluate the quality of the playgroup effectively. They sensitively consider the views of parents when planning future changes that affect children's experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager's supervision of staff does not yet have a strong enough emphasis on staff's practice to raise the quality of teaching and extend children's learning even further.
- Staff do not provide children consistently with a wide range of resources and activities outside to challenge them further and build on their curiosity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the supervision of staff to focus more precisely on their practice to raise the quality of teaching and extend children's learning even further
- extend the range of opportunities and experiences available to challenge and support those children who enjoy learning outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff's suitability checks, self-evaluation, children's assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to monitoring children's progress.

Inspector

Kelly Sunderland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to identify any children who may be at risk of harm. They know the action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff attend regular training, which has a positive impact on the children's learning and development. For example, staff have recently attended a mark-making course and now focus more on developing children's arm muscles to support their early writing skills. The committee implements robust recruitment procedures to ensure it employs suitable adults. The manager and staff value the importance of working collaboratively with other professionals to provide consistency in children's care and experiences. For example, they link with local schools to offer smooth transitions when children move on to their next stages of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of children's interests and next steps in learning, and use this information to provide exciting activities inside that encourage children to explore and investigate. Children learn to recognise numbers and confidently count as they play. Staff support this well as they incorporate mathematical vocabulary into play activities effectively. For example, children confidently count pom-poms and sort in size order. Staff observe children closely and regularly assess their development, to find out what they need to learn next. Staff quickly identify where there are gaps in individual children's learning, and make plans to help them catch up.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are extremely calm and sensitive in their interactions with the children. There is good settling-in support when children are new to the playgroup. For example, staff ask about children's interests to distract and reassure them. Staff know children well and tailor their care to their individual needs successfully. For example, staff change children's key person if they observe they have a close bond with another member of staff. Staff support children's good health effectively. They encourage parents to provide healthy food in children's lunchboxes. Children learn about good hygiene practices and have many opportunities to be physically active. Staff continually praise and encourage the children, helping them to feel valued and respected.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. They attain a wide range of skills that helps prepare them well for their future learning. Children develop good social skills and enjoy playing with their friends. For example, children take it in turns to be the shopkeeper in their role play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133004
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	1088446
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Bathampton Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP521945
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2017
Telephone number	07716 600269

Bathampton Playgroup registered in 1977. The playgroup is in Bathampton, Somerset. It is open on Monday and Wednesday from 8.30am to 1pm, on Tuesday from 8.30am to 3pm, and on Friday from 8.30am to midday, during term time. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup is run by a committee. It employs four members of staff, three of whom hold a relevant qualification at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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