

Greendown Playgroup

Lydiard Park Academy, Grange Park Way, Grange Park, Swindon, SN5 6HN



Inspection date	27 September 2017
Previous inspection date	29 June 2015

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

- The leadership and management of the setting are strong. The manager leads by example and regularly evaluates the provision.
- Links with parents are warm and supportive. Parents are welcomed into the setting. Staff value the sharing of information from home to help build a full picture of each child's progress.
- The staff work well together and are very positive role models. The effective key-person system helps children to settle quickly.
- Staff promote children's mathematical learning well. When playing alongside the children, they skilfully weave in support to help children extend their mathematical skills and language.
- The children are happy and enjoy talking to the staff. The strong focus on supporting children's emotional welfare, communication and language skills forms a solid foundation to help them make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to help children think critically.
- Staff do not make full use of opportunities for children to explore using their senses.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to develop their skills to extend opportunities for children to think critically
- increase further the range of opportunities for children to build on their sensory experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff playing and interacting with the children indoors and outdoors, and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector met with parents to hear their views.
- The inspector looked at the assessment and planning and discussed how the quality of the provision is evaluated.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents.

Inspector

Julie Eden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff understand their responsibilities to keep children safe. The team regularly reviews policies and procedures which support children's safety and welfare. Parents sign up to the setting's policies and code of conduct which promotes shared values from the start. Regular staff appraisals, supervisory meetings and observations support the manager to review the quality of provision and maintain an overview of all children's progress. She uses this information to prioritise areas for improvement. The manager ensures that staff receive appropriate professional development. She helps her team to stay up to date by sharing the key messages from training sessions. The setting reflects the values of inclusive practice, ensuring that all families feel welcome.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Planning and assessment systems are well structured and teaching is good. Staff identify and support children's individual learning needs effectively and plan activities to help children catch up. They plan from children's interests to, for example, encourage them to play together and develop their social skills. Support for children's communication and language development is a strength. Children who are learning English as an additional language are helped to catch up quickly. The staff model and repeat language to support children to extend their vocabulary. On Wednesday mornings, the setting offers a short, age-appropriate German session which the children enjoy. The staff promote children's physical development well. Children learn how their bodies change when they exercise. At lunchtime, the children enjoy identifying which are 'healthy foods' in their lunch boxes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy their time at the setting. They are well behaved and are learning to share and take turns. Staff support children well to manage any occasional upsets. They calmly promote and reinforce the simple rules throughout the day. Interactions are warm and encouraging. Staff praise children's achievements, for example, when they practise getting dressed and undressed independently for physical activity. Children enjoy choosing where they want to play. They have opportunities to play on a bigger scale outdoors. Children enjoy being together, digging in the mud with spades and fetching water. Children's health and well-being are supported well by the staff.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Children are developing the skills they will need to be ready for school. For example, their social skills are developing quickly and they interact with friends throughout the day. Children are developing good levels of communication, language and mathematical skills, which help to prepare them well for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507994
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	1091149
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	3 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Greendown Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901857
Date of previous inspection	29 June 2015
Telephone number	01793 882 234

Greendown Playgroup registered in 1996. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. The setting is open every weekday during term time from 8.45am until 2.45pm, with separate sessions in the morning and afternoon. There are nine members of staff, eight of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

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