

Monkton Under 5's Playgroup



Monkton Men's Institute, 122 Monkton Street, Monkton, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 4JQ

Inspection date 25 September 2017
Previous inspection date 13 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 effectively use observations and assessments to monitor children's learning and development. They plan activities and experiences that meet children's needs and interests. Children readily join in and make good progress in their learning.
- Children thoroughly enjoy their day at playgroup. Children build close bonds with the caring staff, who are responsive to their ideas and thoughts. Staff provide children with a variety of resources, which they are able to independently access to make informed choices in their play.
- The management committee understands its responsibility to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the early years foundation stage. Staff have received child protection training, and are fully aware of the procedures to follow to help protect children and keep them safe.
- Staff are good role models. They consistently reinforce the clear rules and boundaries to support children's emotional well-being. Children behave well and learn good manners.
- Children eagerly learn about healthy lifestyles, including the need for exercise. They thoroughly enjoy daily opportunities to go outside, whatever the weather.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not make the most of opportunities to develop further children's good knowledge and thinking skills.
- Staff do not provide sufficient experiences for children to explore making marks and practise early writing in all areas of their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to support staff to develop their skills and knowledge, to help ensure that they constantly challenge children's learning and thinking skills further
- review and improve the range of opportunities available for children to explore making marks and practise their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views on the service they receive and how staff support them.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector discussed the organisation and running of the playgroup with the nominated person and deputy manager and checked staff qualifications.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's development folders, accident and medication records, and recruitment and induction procedures.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management has a secure knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow if it has any concerns regarding children's safety and welfare. The committee is focused on supporting and developing the quality of the playgroup provision. For example, it ensures the manager has a relevant early years qualification for her post and all staff are suitably checked before they work with children. Management deploys staff effectively and carries out thorough risk assessments to enable children to play in safety. It has implemented detailed induction procedures to help new staff and those taking on new roles.

Management identifies training needs and fully supports staff in their roles. Safeguarding is effective. The management accurately monitors and tracks children's progress. It quickly identifies any gaps in learning and provides any additional support needed. Staff have strong connections with other early years professionals and local schools to help ensure children receive continuity of care and learning. They have positive relationships with parents and regularly gather and exchange information about children's needs, achievements and progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children benefit from engaging in a wide variety of experiences to expand their interest in the world around them. For example, they go on walks to the shops and visit the local woodland areas to gain a good awareness of their community. Staff effectively use commentary to help extend children's vocabulary. For instance, they describe the texture of the conkers and their shells, which also increases children's sensory experiences. Children enjoy being creative and develop positive social skills. They eagerly engage in role play with their friends, such as dressing up and making dinner in the home corner.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate they feel secure and ready to meet challenges, such as working out how to get the play dough out of the container without help. Children gain a sense of achievement and staff make good use of praise to support their self-esteem. Children learn to value and respect their own and other people's differences and similarities. Mealtimes are a social occasion. Staff provide children with a variety of healthy snacks and talk to them about making healthy choices. Staff encourage children to take care of the toys and their environment. For example, children show off their strong muscles as they help lift boxes, helping staff to tidy toys away ready for snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good communication skills. For example, they confidently join in at circle time, talking about the animal they have chosen out of the special bag. Children settle well and know the daily routines. For instance, older children are keen to help place the timeline cards in order so that younger children know what will happen next in the day. Children develop their physical skills and learn how to manage their own safety. For example, they ensure the bottom of the slide is clear before descending. Children make good progress and are prepared for their next stage in learning and move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127388
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1113888
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 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Monkton Under 5's Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522794
Date of previous inspection	13 March 2015
Telephone number	01843446490 and 07572166059

Monkton Under 5's Playgroup registered in 1977 and is run by a committee. It is located in Monkton, near Ramsgate, Kent. It is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3.30pm, during term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup has six members of staff, four of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or level 3. They also have a qualified teacher who supports the playgroup.

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