

St Augustine's Playgroup

Matson House, Matson Lane, Gloucester, GL4 6ED



Inspection date

3 October 2017

Previous inspection date

14 December 2016

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 and staff have made improvements since their last inspection. They have worked closely with other local professionals to raise the quality of the service that is being provided. Self-evaluation is effective. The manager and staff have evaluated on their practice well and identified their strengths and areas for improvement.
- Children are confident and arrive at the playgroup happily. They form strong bonds with all of the staff. Children show affection and enjoy telling staff how they feel about them.
- Children make good progress relative to their starting points. Staff know their key children well and support them with their individual language. For example, small-group sessions help children to develop their language and communication skills.
- Parents are happy with the care that their children receive. Parents speak highly of the staff and feel that their children are well supported with their emotional needs.
- The environment is well organised. Children can make their own choices about what they would like to play with. Resources are well planned to meet the children's interests.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager and staff have not extended partnerships with parents to complement children's learning at home.
- The manager is still developing systems to monitor the progress of the different groups of children in the setting to enable her to target learning more effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with parents to keep them well informed about what their children need to learn next, to complement children's learning at home
- build on the assessment process to monitor the progress made by different groups of children, to identify learning trends and target teaching even more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took into account the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the interactions between the staff and children.
- The inspector looked at written documents, including staff files, policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting with the manager and spoke to the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Victoria Nicolson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a good awareness of the signs that a child's welfare may be at risk. They are aware of the procedures that they should follow to report their concerns. The manager fully understands her responsibility to safely recruit and manage staff. For example, she regularly observes staff practice to monitor the effectiveness of their teaching and to highlight areas for development. The manager and staff reflect well on what the children like to do. They make changes to reflect children's ideas. For example, staff take into account children's enjoyment of digging and transporting stones to develop an area for them to play and extend their interests.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff know the children very well. They spend time playing with them using their interests to keep them engaged and focused. For example, staff support children to recognise quantities and numbers as they play alongside them in the role-play area. They talk about the numbers on the scales as they pretend to cook. Staff regularly observe children and assess their progress to identify what they need to learn next. Staff recognise how children like to learn and then carefully plan to encourage all children to participate in a wide range of activities. For example, they noticed that some of the children who were not engaged in drawing inside preferred to do so outside, so this is planned to encourage them to take part.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are cheerful and welcoming. They act as good role models to the children. Staff support the children to be kind and polite. Children regularly use their manners when talking to each other. Children are sociable and develop good relationships with their peers. They involve them in their play and seek them out to share their experiences. Children are eager and motivated to join in with the activities that are arranged for them. For example, they crowd around the table to make their faces using play dough. Children gain a good awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. For example, they talk about their snack being good for them and learn that they need to drink water during the day. Children have lots of fresh air and physical play as they use the large garden to run and explore on a daily basis.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They gain the skills that will support them with their future learning. For example, they are independent at managing their own needs and they develop good levels of concentration. Children develop a good mathematical awareness. They count during their play and compare their models using mathematical language, such as 'bigger', 'smaller', 'more' and 'less'. Older children are able to recognise what their names looks like and are starting to form letters to write their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY263188
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1080590
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	St Augustines Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904639
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2016
Telephone number	01452384442

St Augustine's Playgroup registered in 2003 and is run by a committee. The playgroup operates from 9am to 3.30pm from Monday to Friday, term time only. The playgroup employs seven members of staff, five of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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