

Trinity Methodist Playgroup

High Street, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 4HU



Inspection date	10 October 2017
Previous inspection date	23 March 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 playgroup is led and managed well. Self-evaluation is effective and contributes to the drive to provide a good-quality care and learning experience for children.
- Staff know children well. They talk confidently about where children are in their learning and development and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. Staff are confident to carry through their findings into planning.
- Staff support the development of children's speech and language well. They engage children in conversation and introduce new vocabulary. They repeat words back to the children so that they hear them pronounced correctly.
- Partnerships with parents are friendly and trusting. Parents are kept well informed about how their children are learning and developing.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always support all children well enough to separate from their main carer and settle into the playgroup.
- Staff do not plan enough opportunities to fully support the learning of children who prefer to be outdoors.
- The evaluation of staff performance is not yet a fully effective aid to monitoring and building on the already good practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children more effectively to separate from their main carer and settle into the playgroup
- provide more opportunities for children to be outdoors, especially for those who prefer to play and learn outside
- develop the opportunities available for staff to receive support and share good practice.

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 spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation with the provider/manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider/manager and also discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and other records.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good awareness of the indicators of abuse and know how to report concerns. Staff are enthusiastic and motivated. They work very well as a team. All staff are keen to improve their practice and reflect well on training. For example, in response to recent training staff have reviewed the provision for younger children. They have made changes to the resources available to enable children to access them more readily. The nursery management team checks children's progress to ensure that they make good progress from their starting points. The use of additional funding is monitored to ensure that it is used effectively to close identified gaps. Parents describe staff as friendly and approachable. They appreciate the good levels of communication between the staff and themselves.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff talk confidently about the children and what they like to do. They observe children as they play and evaluate their observations well. This helps staff to plan suitably challenging and interesting activities to support children's next steps in learning. The quality of teaching is good overall. Activities are adapted well to enable children to participate at their own level. For example, during a small-group activity to support children's developing speech and language skills staff adapt the activity for individual children. Older and the most able children are asked to find a set number of items while younger ones are asked to find one item. Staff support children's attempts at pronunciation well, using clapping to help children break down words with a number of syllables. Staff learn key words in children's home languages to support children who speak English as an additional language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Each child is allocated a key person. The key person understands their responsibility for the children's care and welfare and the importance of building close emotional bonds. Children learn to play well together. They initiate interactions with each other and are encouraged to follow the consistent ground rules. Staff manage children's unwanted behaviour well. They are calm and gentle as they remind children of the rules, such as using kind hands. They help children learn to take turns and share. Staff respond well to children's good behaviour and individual efforts and give them meaningful praise. This supports children's developing self-esteem effectively. Children enjoy playing outdoors and develop their physical skills in the well-resourced garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and develop the key skills needed to be ready for school. They readily select what they want to play with and confidently lead their own play. Children understand that print carries meaning. They learn to recognise their first name during the self-registration routine and it is written on their coat hooks. Children manage their personal hygiene needs relevant to their ages and levels of ability.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251700
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1090301
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	25
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Trinity Methodist Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905026
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2015
Telephone number	01502 531562

Trinity Methodist Playgroup registered in 1971. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 1pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 9am to midday Wednesday. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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