

Kingston Park Playgroup

Kingston Park Community Centre, Brunton Lane, Kingston Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE3 2SW



Inspection date

12 October 2017

Previous inspection date

22 October 2014

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

- Older and younger children engage in play and learn alongside each other. Staff take account of children's different ages and abilities when they plan activities. They adapt each activity effectively to enable all children to enjoy good-quality opportunities to learn.
- Children are happy and settled in this welcoming pre-school. They develop secure emotional attachments to their key person and other staff, readily going to them for a chat and support with activities.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff keep parents informed about their child's day and the progress they make, sharing ideas for home learning. Parents feel part of their children's learning and speak highly of the staff. They particularly praise how children are happy, settled and confident.
- Staff help children to value and respect each other. They model good behaviour and help them to cooperate with each other. Staff encourage children to understand the consequences of their actions as they discuss how their behaviour makes others feel.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times staff, miss opportunities to develop children's mathematical skills during everyday activities.
- Performance management is not yet firmly embedded to clearly demonstrate how the good-quality teaching is continually monitored and how the information gained is used to shape and support staff's professional development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities that help further increase children's mathematical skills during everyday activities
- strengthen the performance management and monitoring systems further so that good-quality teaching continues to be monitored and the information is used to shape and support staff's professional development in the future.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities in all areas of the playgroup, assessed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's progress. The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at records and documentation including, evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of the views and comments.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good awareness of the procedures in place to protect children if they have any concerns about their welfare. Staff are well qualified, deployed effectively and ratios are maintained throughout the day. There is a strong partnership between the staff and parents to help identify what they do well and where to make improvements. For example, they have put a parents' comments book in the entrance hall to encourage parent to make suggestions. The manager monitors and tracks, individuals and groups of children's progress, to ensure any gaps in learning are identified and further support is sought.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide interesting learning experiences. They know what children need and plan well to increase children's skills in all areas of learning. For example, staff make good use of resources to integrate pre-writing skills as they manipulate a range of tools and fine materials when making pictures. Staff use questioning very effectively, to stimulate children's thinking. Staff provide an environment that is rich in language. They consistently converse with children and listen attentively while they speak. Staff know how to offer a balance of child-led play experiences and adult-directed teaching. They allow time for children to complete tasks and give consistent praise. Staff effectively raise children's self-esteem.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop good social skills, such as sharing and cooperating with others, as well as a healthy respect and awareness of their individual needs and backgrounds. They develop good hygiene practices, such as handwashing. They regularly enjoy exciting outdoor activities to promote physical exercise. Staff promote children's good health well and place a strong emphasis on healthy eating. Relationships between staff, children and parents are good.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well from their starting points and are well prepared for their next stages in their learning. Children are motivated. They enjoy the activities on offer and these enhance their learning and development well. For example, children have fun exploring and experimenting with trains as they investigate how they move along the track and up and down various hills. Children are confident in their communication and language skills, they talk freely with staff. Children develop good literacy skills as they start to recognise their names. They are keen to read the story of the week as they sit with their friends, discuss and retell the story.

Setting details

Unique reference number	319226
Local authority	Newcastle
Inspection number	1103696
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	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	KPCA Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911559
Date of previous inspection	22 October 2014
Telephone number	01912869825

Kingston Park Playgroup registered in 1992 and is located within the community centre at Kingston Park in Newcastle. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold early years qualifications at level 3, one holds an early years degree qualification and one holds qualified teacher status. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 9.30am to 12.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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