

Sevington Playgroup

Weir View Hut, River Lawn Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1EP



Inspection date	20 October 2017
Previous inspection date	19 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 leadership team has very clear and thorough development plans. Using the views of parents and staff, it continually makes improvements and regularly evaluates the impact for children and staff.
- Staff closely observe what children can do and what they are interested in. They make good use of this information to plan stimulating activities that help children achieve well, including those who have special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff are warm and caring. All children develop strong relationships with them. Children feel secure and settle quickly at the start of the day.
- Staff work closely with parents. They work hard to ensure all parents know what their children are doing. They create a strong and effective two-way flow of information between the playgroup and home.
- Children maintain high levels of curiosity and are motivated to learn. They become fully absorbed in their play and develop good skills to support their future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although leaders know how individual children are achieving, they do not monitor groups of children to help them identify and address any gaps in their learning.
- Sometimes, staff miss opportunities to make consistent use of skilful questioning, to extend conversations with children and increase opportunities to support their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the monitoring of the progress made by groups of children so that leaders clearly know how well all groups of children are progressing
- develop teaching techniques further, to extend children's learning as they play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and children's play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager, the chair of the playgroup, committee members and the special educational needs coordinator.
- The inspector spoke with children and all staff, and a small selection of parents, and took account of their views.
- The inspector conducted a shared observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's records of progress, self-evaluation and development plans, complaints and staff recruitment records.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders ensure that all staff receive appropriate training and can recognise if a child is at risk of abuse. Additional funding is used extremely effectively to give children rich experiences to close any gaps in their learning and development. For example, they take part in a sports programme delivered by specialists. Leaders ensure rigorous recruitment and induction procedures are in place to protect the welfare of children. Well-qualified staff receive regular feedback from leaders and, where necessary, additional training to develop their professional practice. For instance, the manager has attended a workshop on reflective practice. Leaders and staff engage well with other professionals to improve outcomes for all children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children very well. They provide activities that interest and excite them. Staff encourage children to be curious and creative, such as when they make 3D models with packaging and paper. They make good use of naturally occurring opportunities to provide children with new learning experiences. For example, children play outside with streamers to experience the effects of the wind. Staff help children learn and understand about changes in the world as they look at autumnal fruits and seeds and use leaves in their artwork. They make use of different ways of teaching to support all children to make good progress, such as by using pictures to support those with speech and language difficulties.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a warm and welcoming environment where children are safe. Children learn to behave well and manage their own feelings. For example, staff support them to take turns and listen to one another when choosing songs to sing at group time. Children enjoy healthy snacks and have plenty of fresh air and space to move and run around. Regular trips out, such as to the park and castle, give children a chance to explore and learn about their local environment. They also learn about each other's customs and festivals and take part in special activities, such as making kites, to celebrate them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate independence and self-confidence, such as when they blow their own nose and take themselves to the toilet. They are developing a strong love of stories and rhymes to support their literacy skills. They learn new words as they enjoy singing enthusiastically together. Effective resourcing gives children opportunities to learn mathematical concepts, such as when they estimate how much dough is needed to balance the weighing scales. Children are ready for when they go to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127532
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1089358
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Sevington Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902004
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2015
Telephone number	01732 367391

Sevington Playgroup registered in 1969. The playgroup is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm, term time only. The playgroup employs nine members of staff, six of whom hold recognised early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup provides funded nursery education for children aged two, three and four years.

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