

Rascals Pre-School Playgroup

Methodist Church Hall, Claigmar Road, Rustington, West Sussex, BN16 2NL



Inspection date	9 November 2017
Previous inspection date	25 June 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 managers work closely with outside agencies to support children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. They share expertise with local speech therapists and put in place effective strategies, with tailored support, to meet children's individual needs. All children make good progress from their starting points, regardless of their circumstances.
- The managers create a very positive atmosphere where staff, parents and children feel valued and supported. They lead their hard-working, well-qualified staff team successfully and together they continue to develop the provision. They reflect closely on practice and make continual improvements to maintain children's good outcomes.
- Staff keep detailed records of children's achievements and assess their development accurately. Managers monitor the progress that all children make closely, including boys, girls and children who have speech delay. They quickly close any potential gaps.
- Children are happy, confident and secure. They form strong, trusting bonds with staff and each other in the nurturing environment. Staff know the children well and follow their interests successfully to help extend their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always ensure quieter children consistently engage in their play and learning to the highest levels.
- At times, staff miss opportunities to encourage children's thinking skills even further as they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer further support and encouragement for quieter children to ensure they engage fully in their play and learning at all times
- improve the use of questioning to help develop children's thinking skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the pre-school's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The ambitious managers supervise staff closely and successfully help them to continue to develop their practice. They carry out regular individual support meetings and offer helpful guidance and further training opportunities. After recent training, staff now sign with their hands as they speak to children to support their early communication further. The managers and staff have worked hard to improve the outdoor environment. Children now benefit from a covered area to support all-weather play and a new well-resourced digging area. Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff are well trained and have a thorough and up-to-date knowledge of child protection and the actions to take to address any concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff keep parents fully informed of their children's development. They work together well and regularly discuss children's next steps in learning and how parents can support these at home. Staff provide a stimulating and challenging environment for children. For example, children enjoy exploring a wide range of toy dinosaurs. Staff encourage them to look at each dinosaur closely and match them to pictures in a book they have made. Children pay close attention to detail and correctly identify dinosaurs, such as 'triceratops', from their characteristics. Staff support children's communication skills consistently. For example, they encourage plenty of conversation and listen carefully to children's answers, modelling correct language for younger children. They play simple word-matching games with children who need additional support and help them to learn new vocabulary.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are strong role models and sensitively support children's good behaviour, offering consistent reassurance and guidance. Children are kind, helpful and develop positive social skills. They happily include others in their play, such as when taking turns to blow bubbles and to chase after them. Children learn to explore diversity through daily activities. For example, as they complete cultural puzzles, they discuss how the pictures of people look different and the same. Staff successfully support children's sense of community. Children take part in regular 'pre-school praise' sessions in the local church, singing songs with staff, families and members of the local community. Children confidently move between the indoor and outdoor environment. They are very physically active and show good coordination as they ride scooters and hit balls at targets.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their learning and are willing to give things a go. They concentrate well, such as when painting and drawing, and are beginning to write their name with staff support. Children count confidently as they build towers with blocks and compare sizes as they cut fruit for their healthy snack. Children express themselves confidently and happily talk about their home lives and recent experiences. They engage well in imaginary play and take on roles, such as preparing dinner and feeding baby dolls. Children quickly gain the skills needed for the next stage in their learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113671
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1089119
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	26
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Rustington Methodist Church
Registered person unique reference number	RP908153
Date of previous inspection	25 June 2015
Telephone number	07546584314

Rascals Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1989. The pre-school operates from the Methodist Church Hall in the village of Rustington, near Littlehampton, West Sussex. The pre-school is open on Monday and Tuesday between 9.30am and 3.30pm, and on Thursday and Friday between 9.30am and 12.30pm, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs five staff, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications between early years teacher status and level 3.

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