

Fleetville Community Playgroup

The Community Centre, Royal Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 4LQ



Inspection date	7 December 2017
Previous inspection date	8 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

- Children build very close bonds with their key person. This supports them to quickly learn the routines and feel happy and settled. Children attend some settling-in sessions which help to build their confidence.
- Staff have built close working partnerships with parents. They regularly share the assessments of children's progress with them. Staff provide a wide range of ideas that parents can use at home to further support their children's learning.
- Children delight in exploring the outside areas in all weathers. They enjoy splashing in the puddles and collecting rain in containers. Children develop their physical skills, such as when they ride push-along and pedalled bicycles.
- Staff provide many opportunities for children to develop their language and communication skills. For example, they ask children questions during story sessions and encourage them to predict what may happen next. Staff repeat words back to the children to support their pronunciation.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff complete regular and thorough assessments of children's progress. However, they do not always make the best use of this information to target specific next steps in learning to support children to make even more rapid progress.
- Staff do not always share enough information with other settings that children attend to make sure they can build continuously on the learning that takes place elsewhere.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of information gathered from assessments to provide children with more specific next steps in learning that enable them to make even more rapid progress
- develop further the arrangements for sharing information with other settings that children attend to build continuously on the learning that takes place elsewhere.

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 and children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed and discussed a joint observation with the playgroup deputy.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup deputy. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding about the signs and symptoms to be aware of. They know the procedures to follow and who to contact with any such concerns. The manager has developed a rigorous system of supervision meetings with the staff. This helps to support staff in their practice. Together they discuss training and professional development opportunities that can develop their knowledge and extend their skills. Staff frequently gather the important views of parents and children. Staff discuss areas for development and everyone's views are incorporated into their plans for improvement. They frequently review the assessments of children's development. This helps to identify any areas that they may need further support in to continue to make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff fully promote children's mathematical development. Staff challenge children to identify numbers between one and 10. Children then stick the correct number of pompoms onto the picture of Christmas trees, which matches the number they identified. They talk about shapes and colours as they create pictures of stars. Staff challenge them to identify between small and big. Parents share information about what children can already do when they first start at the playgroup. Staff complete their own observations and along with the information from parents they identify children's starting points in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and staff provide consistent messages that support their understanding. They learn to take turns and share toys with each other. Staff teach children how to negotiate between themselves. They frequently provide children with praise and encouragement which helps to promote their self-esteem and confidence. Children develop their independence. They are encouraged to put on their own coats and shoes. Children enjoy helping to tidy away toys at the end of the session. Staff support children's understanding about healthy eating, such as when they talk to them about food that is good for them and talk about the food they choose for their snack time. Children take part in activities about different festivals and events. This helps their understanding about the differences and similarities between each other.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are eager to learn and join in with the wide range of activities provided. They make good progress in their learning. Children have opportunities to develop their small-muscle skills. For example, they create objects out of play dough and create star pictures using a range of stickers and craft materials. Children learn the skills needed ready for their next stage in learning and for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316171
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1104413
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	24
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Fleetville Community Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905668
Date of previous inspection	8 October 2014
Telephone number	07854400569

Fleetville Community Playgroup registered in 2005. The playgroup employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, four staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The Deputy manager also holds a foundation degree in early years, the manager holds an appropriate early years degree and one member of staff also holds qualified teacher status. The playgroup opens from Monday to Thursday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until midday. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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