

# The Play Pit

Holly Lodge, 9 Brownlow Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7EX



<b>Inspection date</b>	19 December 2017
Previous inspection date	31 January 2017

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Since the last inspection, the provider and staff have succeeded in improving the provision. A successful key-person system supports children in building good relationships with staff and other children.
- Leaders and staff strive to deliver the highest-quality provision for children and their families. They identify areas to develop further effectively. They set improvement plans and implement changes to achieve goals, and to continue raising standards.
- Staff are positive role models for children and manage behaviour well. They encourage children to use good manners. Children are polite and friendly and learn to be tolerant, respectful and kind.
- Staff provide a nurturing environment that welcomes children and their families. They work in close partnership with parents to support all children in their care and learning needs.
- Teaching is good. Staff understand how children learn. All children are making good progress.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The arrangements for the performance management and support of staff are not strong enough, to clearly identify how individual staff members can raise the quality of their teaching practice to the highest level.
- At times staff do not help children to sustain their concentration during activities and benefit from uninterrupted play.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the good systems introduced for staff supervision and support, to further develop staff's skills that enrich practice and improve outcomes for children
- support children more effectively to sustain their concentration during activities.

### 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 to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery managers. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff during the inspection.

### Inspector

Jemma Hudson

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The suitability of staff members is checked when they are recruited and is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Leaders and staff demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures. They know how to report concerns regarding a child's welfare. This contributes to keeping children safe. Since the last inspection, the manager has introduced regular supervisory sessions with staff and all staff attend regular team meetings. This helps to ensure that staff continue to understand their roles and responsibilities. Tracking is in place to help identify any gaps in children's learning and plan effective ways to narrow these quickly for all children. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong. Parents express a high regard for the help and support they receive from all staff.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's progress and provide interesting and appropriate activities that will engage children and promote their curiosity. Children experiment with a range of materials to develop their imaginative skills. For example, they enjoy painting their hands and using their handprints to create Christmas pictures. Staff help children to develop an interest in books. For example, they read to babies and toddlers who snuggle in closely as they look at the pictures together. Staff support older children well as they explore a range of suitable programmes on the nursery computer.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are settled and emotionally secure. Staff warmly praise children's efforts and achievements. This helps to boost children's self-confidence. Staff use information gathered from parents about children effectively. They provide consistent personal care and flexible routines for babies. Children develop healthy appetites and enjoy excellent opportunities to learn about healthy foods and lifestyles. They enjoy well-balanced meals prepared in the nursery kitchen. They know when and why they must wash their hands. All children have daily opportunities to be active outdoors. This helps them to develop a growing awareness about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They are enthusiastic and independent learners. Children choose their own equipment, which they treat with respect. Children learn skills, such as writing their names, and are beginning to develop their early reading skills. They are confident communicators who are eager to demonstrate what they know and can do. Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and for their eventual move on to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	251782
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	1085302
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	52
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	50
<b>Name of registered person</b>	The Play Pit
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP519111
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	31 January 2017
<b>Telephone number</b>	01394 276005

The Play Pit registered in 1990. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff, including the providers. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, one at level 5, one at level 4, seven at level 3 and one at level 2. One member of staff holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. A breakfast and after-school club is also offered during school term times, with sessions from 7.30am until 8.30am, and 3.10pm until 6pm. A holiday club operates from 7.30am until 6pm during the school holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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