

Happy Days Playgroup

Hinckley Academy And John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre, Butt Lane, Hinckley, LE10 1LE



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

11 January 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 manager implements robust safeguarding policies and procedures. She works closely with safeguarding agencies to ensure children's safety. For example, she employs strict photographic policies to protect children.
- The key-person role is well established. The key person takes time to get to know children and their families well. A daily key group activity is planned at the start of the session to help children build relationships with their key person and each other. This effectively helps children to feel secure and gain a sense of belonging.
- The manager and staff place a strong focus on developing children's awareness of their local community. For example, children enjoy their visits to a local care home where they take part in 'singalinging' with residents. They also look forward to the residents' visits to the playgroup.
- Staff skilfully promote the development of children's language and communication skills. They use a range of strategies and activities to develop children's listening skills and consistently model good conversation techniques with children and each other. Staff support children who speak English as an additional language to make good progress in speaking English.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The programme to support the professional development and supervision of staff is not sufficiently focused to help staff develop their teaching practice to an outstanding level.
- Parents do not receive full information about what their child needs to learn next to help them support learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the programme for professional development and supervision of staff so that it focuses more specifically on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- help parents to understand children's next steps in order to support learning at home.

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

Inspector

Jane Millward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe and ensure that they keep abreast of safeguarding developments. The manager evaluates the quality of her provision and takes account of the views of parents and staff. For example, an additional lunch club was introduced to help children prepare for school. The manager works in partnership with parents, schools and external agencies. She arranges outings and visits for children, parents and grandparents. Parents value these opportunities and praise the manager and staff on their 'friendly approach'. The manager organises a link book to share observations and assessments of children's learning with other settings that they attend. This helps to support continuity in their learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced staff have a good knowledge of the early years requirements. They confidently observe children's learning and interests and use the information to plan future activities. For example, staff note children's interest in the movement of water as they wash up after snack time and plan further water activities. Children happily explore the water play together. They investigate how paper boats can move around and discover which objects sink or float. Staff provide stimulating resources to encourage children to lead their play and develop their imaginations and creativity. For example, children become engrossed in creating a story using small characters in a model house. They excitedly discuss what the characters will say and do during their story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour and provide consistent praise and reward as children play. Children receive good support to learn about how they can play safely and show consideration to others. They confidently talk about the playgroup rules and refer to the colourful picture display which reminds them of these. Staff promote children's independence and self-care skills throughout their time at playgroup. For example, following snack time, children carefully take their cups and plates and wash them before returning to their play. Children have a wealth of opportunities to develop their physical skills in the large outdoor area. They choose to play outdoors and delight in challenging themselves to go down the large tunnel slide and race on ride-on toys.

Outcomes for children are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the playgroup and make good progress. They develop skills which will help them in their future learning, including their eventual move to school. Children are confident, independent and keen to explore all the activities available at the playgroup. Children behave well. They listen attentively and are very polite to staff and each other. Children take turns and share resources with each other in both small and larger groups. Older children write their names on their pictures and can use their knowledge of numbers in games and rhymes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496866
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	1035790
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Hinckley Academy And John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre
Registered person unique reference number	RP901367
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01455 638070

Happy Days Playgroup re-registered in 2016. There are three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.40am until 12.45pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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