

Crowhurst Playgroup

Parish Room, St George's Church, Forewood Lane, Crowhurst, Battle, TN33 9AJ



Inspection date

22 January 2018

Previous inspection date

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

- Children are happy and settled. They develop strong bonds with the caring staff team. Staff are sensitive to children's individual needs and support their emotional and physical well-being effectively.
- Staff are very conscientious about children's safety. For instance, they follow meticulously planned procedures for moving children between the setting's two sites, to help ensure children are safe and well supervised at all times.
- Children take part in a wide variety of interesting activities that they enjoy. They make good progress in their development from their starting points and are eager to learn.
- Staff have positive relationships with parents and keep them well informed. For instance, they exchange information each day, invite parents to regular progress reviews and make suggestions to help involve them in their children's learning at home.
- The manager and staff team constantly reflect on their practice and are motivated to continually improve. For instance, they recently reviewed and updated the way they plan for children's learning, to follow children's interests and choices more closely.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not work as closely as possible with all of the other early years settings that children attend, to help develop a consistent approach to children's learning.
- During the colder months, staff do not make the best possible use of all areas of the environment to offer new challenges for children who prefer to learn outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the partnerships further with the other early years settings that children attend, to help develop a more consistent, shared approach to children's learning
- extend opportunities for children to take part in further exciting new challenges throughout the year, especially those who prefer to learn outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, such as evidence of staff suitability, children's records and the setting's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Rebecca Khabbazi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. There is a thorough recruitment procedure to help make sure staff are suitable to work with children. The manager supports new staff well to help ensure they are familiar with their role. Staff understand their responsibilities and know how to recognise and report any child protection concerns. The manager monitors staff performance closely, for instance, by meeting with them individually. Staff reflect on their practice. For instance, they regularly observe each other during activities to help identify any skills they need to develop further. Staff make good use of training opportunities to further enhance the provision. For example, a recent training scheme helped them provide more activities to extend children's understanding of healthy eating.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children and monitor their development closely. They quickly identify any areas where children may need more support and put effective individual plans in place where appropriate. Staff give children time to test out their ideas and encourage them to persevere with difficult tasks. For instance, children thought carefully as they worked out which pieces to add to their model. Staff encourage children's imagination and creativity. For example, children had great fun dressing up and were delighted when staff joined in their games. Staff make good use of everyday routines, such as lunchtime, to encourage children to practise their mathematical skills. For instance, children counted to make sure there were enough chairs at the table.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children gain a good understanding of risk and how to keep themselves safe. For instance, they listen carefully for cars as they cross the road and know they need to stay close to staff as they walk through the churchyard to the hall. Staff are good role models and respond to children with warmth and affection. Children behave well. They learn about different people and communities and to treat each other with respect. For instance, they enjoy listening to familiar stories in a different language. Staff promote children's good health effectively. For instance, children understand simple hygiene routines, such as why they need to wash their hands before eating lunch.

Outcomes for children are good

Children quickly gain the skills they need for their future learning and the move to school. They develop strong social skills and play happily together, taking turns and negotiating as they take part in an imaginative game. They communicate well, for example, they enjoy a lively conversation during the walk to the hall. Children show a love of books and stories. They listen to stories attentively and are eager to share books with their friends. Children grow in independence and make confident choices about what they want to do. They concentrate well, become absorbed in their play and are motivated to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496341
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1034878
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	8
Name of registered person	Crowhurst Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911555
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07780 649516

Crowhurst Playgroup registered to operate from the Parish Room in St George's Church, Crowhurst, East Sussex in 2015. The setting operates across two sites. It cares for children in the Parish Room from midday to 3pm on Monday and Friday, during term time only. There are four staff; of these, one is a qualified teacher and two hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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