

# Birdwell Playgroup

Birdwell J&I School, Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 5XB



<b>Inspection date</b>	26 January 2018
Previous inspection date	3 April 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- The manager has a clear understanding of her role and responsibilities. She demonstrates a commitment to achieving the very best outcomes for all children.
- A highly effective key-person system is in place. All staff are aware of children's individual needs and provide strong support to help them make good progress in their learning and development. The pre-school places a high priority on developing children's speech and language skills.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Parents speak extremely highly about the pre-school. They comment on how staff meet their children's needs very well. Staff keep parents exceptionally well informed about children's development and achievements.
- Staff have high expectations of children's abilities. Children are highly motivated and engaged as they participate in a wide range of interesting and challenging activities that matches their interests.
- Partnerships with the adjacent school are strong. Children are very well prepared for the move into school when the time comes.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not track the progress that different groups of children are making to help target teaching more effectively.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- broaden the systems for monitoring and track the progress that different groups of children make to ensure that any gaps in learning are targeted.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector observed children taking part in a range of activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector met and held discussions with the manager and the registered person.

### Inspector

Dawn Barlow

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager works alongside the staff on a daily basis. She has an accurate overview of the quality of the pre-school. She regularly seeks the views of parents and children. She uses their valued opinions along with staff's thoughts when identifying areas for improvement and setting targets. The manager has high expectations of the children and tracks all individual's progress closely. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff complete regular training in child protection and demonstrate a good understanding of the process for reporting concerns about children's welfare. The manager monitors staff practice well. She evaluates performance and activities that they plan. She discusses how staff can improve and maintain good-quality teaching. The pre-school makes good use of additional funding to meet individual children's needs.

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

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how children learn. They use this to ensure children's individual next steps are fully supported and to plan challenging and enjoyable experiences. For example, children describe what ice feels like and talk about the animals that have been frozen in the ice shapes in the tray. Children concentrate for long periods of time in their chosen activities. Staff provide effective support to help children develop their mathematical skills. Children listen attentively to stories and know that print carries meaning. Older children are beginning to recognise letters and link them to the sounds that they represent as they begin to read familiar words. Children are provided with opportunities to learn about how to care for animals, such as the playgroup's pet tortoises.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide a very warm and welcoming environment and support children to gain an excellent sense of belonging. Children settle extremely quickly and show consistently high levels of well-being. They work very well with others during group activities. Children show exceptionally good levels of confidence as they move around the extremely stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environments. They are encouraged by staff to make choices about what they would like to do. Staff are very good role models. Children receive lots of encouragement to recognise and celebrate their achievements. They gain an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles. They independently follow good health and hygiene routines and have superb opportunities to be physically active every day.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children develop skills in literacy and mathematics. For example, they learn to write letters of their name and use number names across a range of activities in the playgroup. They learn how to share and be kind to one another. Children are active, confident learners who are engaged well in learning. They gain the skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	302823
<b>Local authority</b>	Barnsley
<b>Inspection number</b>	1087746
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional 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>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	36
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	43
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Debra Corson
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP512148
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	3 April 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01226 350790

Birdwell Playgroup registered in 1993. The playgroup operates from rooms within Birdwell Junior and Infant School in Birdwell, Barnsley. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday, term time. Sessions are from 9am to midday and from midday to 3pm, and a lunch club is available. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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