

Sutton St James Playgroup

Bells Drove, Sutton St James, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 0JG



Inspection date

14 March 2018

Previous inspection date

23 April 2015

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 visibly enjoy playing with staff. Staff help children to develop their listening skills. They describe objects to children and ask them to guess what it is, such as, 'We have two of these and they live on our feet'. Children excitedly shout out, 'Shoes'.
- Children arrive confidently and are keen to play with the good range of resources available. Staff invite families to bring their children for settling-in sessions when they first start. This helps children to feel emotionally secure.
- Staff work well together with other professionals to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They work on set targets to support children's individual needs. Staff attend meetings with parents and other professionals to discuss how to support children's progress.
- Staff develop positive relationships with the host school. They take children for visits to the school before they start and share information about their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff know the children very well, they do not consistently promote what children need to learn next during planned adult-led activities.
- The monitoring of staff performance is not sharply focused on supporting professional development to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help staff to consistently build on what children need to learn next, to help raise children's achievements to an even higher level
- sharpen the focus on professional development so that staff have more opportunities to build on their practice, to help raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

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

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know their responsibilities to keep children safe. They attend child protection training and know where to report any concerns regarding children's safety. Staff help children learn about how to keep themselves safe. They carry out fire evacuation drills with children. Staff have procedures in place so they know the number of staff and children present during each session. This is used when evacuating the building in an emergency to promote children's safety. Self-evaluation is effective. Recent changes have improved the safety for children when they move from indoors to outdoors. The deputy manager works alongside her staff and supports them to maintain children's good progress. She monitors the progress made by individual and groups of children. This has helped her to review the environment in order to promote older children's literacy skills in readiness for their move on to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff share children's achievements daily with parents in a 'linking my life' book. This includes information about children's achievements. Staff observe children and find out about their interests, promoting these in the activities they offer. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop their listening skills. They play sounds made by different animals on a compact disc player and ask children what animal is making the noise. Children guess the animal and talk about their knowledge of the different animals. This demonstrates children's confidence to speak in a group. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills. They ask children to count the number of girls and boys present and then to count the total number of children in the group. This helps children to develop their counting skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. Staff give children plenty of praise and encouragement. Children's artwork is displayed attractively around the room, helping children to know that this is valued and appreciated. Staff find out information from parents about children's care and learning needs when they first start. This helps them to support children's individual needs. Children demonstrate strong emotional attachments with their key persons. They hold on to their shoulder when talking to them and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. Staff provide children with a range of healthy snacks. They encourage children to learn about healthy foods. For example, children help staff to grow vegetables in the garden and use real food in their play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their development and learn key skills in readiness for their move on to school. Outdoors, children ride in toy cars and push them along using their legs, helping to develop their physical skills. They enjoy using spades to dig up soil. Children find a worm and learn about their natural environment. They demonstrate their independence when they access toys and resources to support their interests and wash their hands prior to eating.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253629
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1090353
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Sutton St James Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904700
Date of previous inspection	23 April 2015
Telephone number	01945 440000

Sutton St James Playgroup registered in 1992. The playgroup employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds level 5. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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