

Rainbow Playgroup

c/o The Grove School, Campkin Road, Cambridge, CB4 2NB



Inspection date

13 March 2018

Previous inspection date

19 June 2014

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 are cared for in a well-resourced and stimulating environment and take part in a good range of activities. Additional funding is used well to support children's needs and all children are making good progress in their learning.
- Children of all ages are sociable and confident. They show interest in people visiting the playgroup and freely talk about what they are doing. Children behave well and staff use consistent strategies to help children learn to share.
- Parents are positive about the playgroup and talk about how their children enjoy attending. Parents feel involved in their children's learning and comment that staff tailor communication to meet their needs.
- The manager and her deputy show drive to provide the best learning environment possible. They talk confidently about changes they have made recently and areas they wish to continue to develop. Children's views are sought and acted upon.
- Staff have links with local schools which enables children to meet with their teachers and for key information regarding children's achievements to be shared.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities to further interact with children, particularly in the outdoors environment.
- Professional development opportunities are not yet focused specifically enough to help raise the quality of all staff's teaching skills to the very highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further staff interactions to help extend children's learning, particularly when in the outdoor environment
- target plans for staff's professional development even more precisely, to help to raise the quality of teaching to the very highest 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 to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager and her deputy. The inspector also looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff and committee members.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julia Sudbury

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a sound knowledge of how to keep children safe and the process to follow should they need to report any child protection concerns. Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. Recruitment procedures for new staff are robust and they are supported well to help them become confident in their role. Staff work effectively with other professionals to help support children's learning and development. For example, they attend meetings with specialist teachers and speech therapists to provide a consistent approach to supporting children's development. Regular ongoing evaluation of the environment helps the manager and staff to identify areas of the provision to improve. There are plans to develop the garden area further to provide children with greater opportunities to explore the natural world.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

There are good opportunities for children to develop their early mathematical understanding. Staff make good use of props during singing to help bring the concept of numbers to life for the children. For example, they encourage children to explore the idea of lighter and heavier, as they experiment with weighing scales and water. There is a robust focus on helping children to become effective communicators. All staff make use of simple hand signs to help support children with lower levels of language. Most-able children are encouraged to share their ideas and thoughts during their play. Books are freely available and children independently look at books of their choosing regularly. Staff complete frequent observations and assessments which help to give an accurate picture of all children's progress and inform future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy at the playgroup and quickly build trusting relationships with staff. They are confident and show high levels of independence. Visual timetables and prompts help children to learn to manage the daily routines independently. Staff effectively encourage and support children to develop skills appropriate for their age. Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active in the outdoors area. Staff provide children with a good range of different foods for them to taste during snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated learners. For example, they talk about road safety and remember what happens next in the story. Children show imagination as they make magic drinks and turn into gorillas. They learn to wait for their turn and show good skills in listening and following instructions. All children, including those who receive additional funding, develop the key skills needed for the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400382
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1102219
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	26
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	The Rainbow Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907860
Date of previous inspection	19 June 2014
Telephone number	01223 778 008

Rainbow Playgroup registered in 2009 and employs six members of childcare staff, five of whom hold childcare qualifications at level 3. The playgroup is open 9am to 1pm, Monday and Friday, and 9am to 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, term time only. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two-, three-, and four-years-old.

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