Mytholmroyd Playgroup and Toddlers



The Community Centre, Elphaborough, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 5DY

Inspection date19 MarchPrevious inspection date31 March			
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

- The staff have a good partnership with parents. They keep them very well informed about their children's day and progress. This involves parents in their children's development and helps them to extend their learning at home. The parents speak well about staff in the nursery and comment that children talk with affection about them.
- Staff create a highly stimulating learning environment indoors and outdoors. Children learn to initiate their own play and use the array of resources that is made available to them. Children explore and experiment using all of their senses. They make good progress in their development.
- Staff build strong relationships with children and parents from an early stage. Children settle quickly as they become used to new routines. Children behave well and staff support their emotional well-being.
- The manager and staff regularly reflect on practice, resources and procedures to identify strengths and target areas to develop further. They obtain the views of committee members to make continuous improvements to children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff solve children's problems too readily without giving them time to think of solutions for themselves.
- When children attend additional early years settings, staff do not always share information frequently enough to fully support consistency in children's welfare and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching skills that help children to have more time to think of solutions to problems they encounter
- develop more secure partnerships with other early years settings that children attend to further support continuity in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities in all areas of the playgroup. She observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact on children's learning. She spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at records and documentation, including the suitability of adults working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views and comments.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and staff have a clear vision of how to use the natural, outdoor environment to support all aspects of children's learning and development. They provide a good framework of policies and procedures to help support staff practice. The management team have a good overview of children's progress and identify any gaps in their learning. They work with staff to ensure they plan activities to support these areas of learning well. The management team holds regular staff meetings and supervision to support staff in their professional development which has a positive impact on children's learning. For example, staff attend early phonics training to support children with early literacy skills. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff know the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All staff demonstrate a good knowledge of how children learn. They use assessment well to establish what children know and need to learn next and this informs their planning. Children are confident and inquisitive and freely explore the interesting learning environment. Staff maximise opportunities to explore mark making in the snow and look at differences and similarities. Younger children and babies enjoy a variety of sensory, open-ended experiences which promotes their curiosity to explore. Older children are interested in the group activities led by staff and confidently join in with these. For example, together with staff the children lead their imaginary play as they pretend to make tea and cut and serve pizza to their peers. Staff skilfully integrate mathematics into the activity as they count the pieces.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children, parents and visitors receive a very warm welcome when they arrive at the playgroup. Staff promote an inclusive environment where all children are valued as unique individuals. Children's good health and physical development are fostered very well. Many of the children enjoy being outdoors, exploring the stimulating environment. Children become independent in managing aspects of their personal care routines. Snack and mealtimes are sociable occasions where children enjoy eating nutritious foods. Staff are very good role models which helps children display good behaviour. Children's confidence and self-esteem are well promoted and they thrive on consistent praise and positive encouragement.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen and active learners who feel comfortable in their surroundings and enjoy their time at the playgroup. They are eager to try new experiences and interact well with staff and each other. Children are developing good literacy skills. They confidently select and read books, retelling their favourite stories. They are developing the skills needed for future learning and school. Funding is used well to support children to make continued good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY224876
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	1087875
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Mytholmroyd Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520430
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2014
Telephone number	01422 882226

Mytholmroyd Playgroup and Toddlers registered in 1977. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm all year round. The playgroup employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. One member of staff has early years professional status. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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