

Simon & Sarah Playgroup

151 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1RY



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

23 March 2018

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

- Staff have developed highly effective relationships with other professionals. This helps to ensure that all children receive the support that they need to achieve well and make progress.
- Children respond well to staff discussions about sharing toys with others. Staff encourage them effectively to develop an understanding of how to cooperate during games and as they use large play equipment together.
- Self-evaluation is carried out, taking account of the views and opinions of children, parents and staff. This supports the manager to make informed decisions about future improvements.
- Staff provide children with high levels of emotional support from the very start. This helps them to build strong attachments and develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence effectively.
- Parents are extremely happy with the service provided. They describe the staff as really approachable and supportive of the whole family. Parents comment on the wide selection of activities children enjoy. They are happy that their children are quickly learning new words in English.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use information from assessments as effectively as possible to identify and plan really precise next steps for younger children's learning.
- Staff do not make the most of their good relationships with parents to support them to complement and extend their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more effective use of information gained from assessments to focus precisely on what younger children need to learn next, to help them to make the best possible progress
- enhance the strategies that are in place to support parents to complement and extend their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons working in the playgroup.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through the feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and her staff team are aware of how to recognise and report a concern about a child's welfare. They understand their responsibilities and how to implement the playgroup's whistleblowing policy. Recruitment procedures are robust, and policies and procedures are rigorous. These are followed by staff to promote the smooth daily running of the playgroup and protect the safety and welfare of children. Regular risk assessments and daily safety checks of the premises and equipment help to protect the children and staff. Staff are supported well through regular supervision and team meetings. This helps the manager to promote their continuous professional development and improve children's learning experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are encouraged to use their imagination. Staff invite them to explore a wide range of dressing-up items. When children spend time exploring a mask, they talk about what it is and how it can be used. After seeing staff hold it to their face, children are reassured and inspired to copy them. Children show curiosity, and good physical and problem-solving skills. They work out how to tip over a storage basket to discover what is at the very bottom. Staff support children's understanding of the world when they show interest in a book of maps and a globe, which they spin around on its axis. Staff involve children in conversations showing an interest in what they have to say, which helps to keep them engaged in their learning. Children show their good understanding and are able to successfully find landmarks on a map of England.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Older children have a good range of opportunities to develop their independence, helping to prepare them for school. They wash their hands in preparation for snacks and are encouraged to make decisions and choices about their learning. Children enjoy opportunities to take part in vigorous play and to be outdoors. They learn how to take care of living things as they water plants and go on short walks in the local area. Staff find out detailed information about each child before they start and are vigilant in meeting their dietary needs. Children thoroughly enjoy the recognition staff give them for their achievements, such as when they successfully cut a sandwich in half at snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are successfully prepared for the next stage in their learning. Young children demonstrate perseverance as they work together to solve practical problems in their play. For example, they find ways to scoop up and transport uncooked rice and steady a cardboard tube before tipping the rice into it. Children show great excitement when they finally achieve what they set out to do. They watch in fascination as rice spills out of the tube into a tray. Children show good hand-to-eye coordination and control as they proudly write their name on their creations. They skilfully move around obstacles in their path and have fun working out how to make a sit-and-ride car move forward.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500069
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1053073
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	26
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Broomfield Road Evangelical Church Trust
Registered person unique reference number	RP900987
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01245 345701

Simon & Sarah Playgroup registered in 2016. The playgroup employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm.

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