

Wildwood Hall Playgroup

Wildwood Community Centre, Wildwood, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST17 4RA



Inspection date

28 March 2018

Previous inspection date

3 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
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 requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has failed to notify Ofsted about two of the committee members who manage the childcare provision. As a result, Ofsted has been unable to carry out the required checks to determine the committee members' suitability for their roles.
- The management is not yet fully successful in monitoring the progress made by different groups of children.
- Staff do not always seek details from every parent about what their child already knows and can do before they start at the playgroup.

It has the following strengths

- The manager provides all staff with regular confidential meetings. This ensures all staff are able to discuss their key children, their ongoing suitability and training needs and anything that concerns them. This, and regular observations of their practice, ensures teaching has a positive impact on all children's learning.
- Staff are warm and sensitive towards the children in their care. Children are meaningfully praised during their activities. This fosters their close emotional attachments. Children behave well, demonstrate high levels of empathy for others and understand the rules to be followed. Outcomes for children are good.
- The manager has developed strong relationships with other professionals, including the local schools. This helps to make sure there is continuity in children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

Due Date

- provide Ofsted with information on all members of the playgroup committee in a timely manner. 11/04/2018

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

- develop the systems already in place for monitoring children's progress to include different groups of children, so that all children reach the highest level of achievement possible
- encourage parents to share even more information about what their child already knows and can do when they first start, to plan precisely for their learning from the outset.

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, parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider has not notified Ofsted of all of the committee members who manage the childcare provision. Consequently, Ofsted has not been able to complete all the required checks on all those involved in the playgroup. However, because committee members do not have close or unsupervised contact with children at any time there is no impact on children's safety. Safeguarding is effective. All staff regularly attend child protection training. They know what to do and who to contact should they have a concern about any child in their care. Staff check all areas of the playgroup before the children arrive. They supervise children well during indoor and outdoor play. This helps to keep children safe. Staff identify where children are across all areas of learning following their settling-in sessions. However, they are less successful at gaining information from parents about their child's previous learning prior to their time of entry. Furthermore, although staff track individual children's learning, they do not consistently track the progress made by different groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They provide good opportunities for children to explore the concept of cause and effect. For example, they use demonstration and commentary to help children find out how a hard chocolate bar can be made runny by using the microwave. Children's learning is further promoted as they mix melted chocolate with cereal to make their own Easter cakes to take home to their family. During such times, staff encourage children to count how many paper cases they need for the tray and to count how many spoons of the mixture are needed to fill them. Staff make the most of such activities as they use a range of questioning techniques to help children to think and to talk about their findings.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage and support children as they take manageable risks in their play. Children demonstrate excitement as they run around in the fresh air. They develop their physical skills well as they climb, balance and follow their friends around on their tricycles. Staff provide healthy snacks and free access to water throughout the session. This helps children to understand about the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They develop their confidence as they make choices about where and what to play with. Children thoroughly enjoy singing and rhyme time as they sit with their friends and join in with the actions. They make marks on the outdoor walls as they paint and draw pictures of their family. Children are developing the skills they need in readiness for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218282
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1090025
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	40
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Wildwood Hall Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904729
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2015
Telephone number	07816688415

Wildwood Hall Playgroup registered in 1970 and is run by a voluntary management committee. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday, during term time only. Morning sessions are from 8.45am to 11.45am and afternoon sessions are offered from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. There is an additional lunchtime wrap-around session from 11.45am to 12.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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