

Shekinah Playgroup

Baptist Church, Western Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5WD



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

19 April 2018

5 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 create a caring environment where parents and children feel welcome. Children are confident, settled and happy. They behave well and form good friendships.
- Staff get to know children well. They make good use of observation and assessment to identify children's next steps in learning.
- Staff give careful thought to providing a wide variety of interesting resources that reflects children's interests and needs. Children make good progress from their starting points in learning.
- The managers carefully monitor all children's progress and successfully identify and address any emerging gaps in their learning. They make good use of additional funding to meet children's individual needs.
- The managers successfully implement systems for monitoring, coaching and supervising staff effectively. Children benefit from staff's increasing knowledge and skills. For example, following training, staff are now more effectively building on children's mathematical skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently organise some planned large-group activities in the most effective way to encourage younger and less confident children's involvement further.
- Staff do not consistently make the most of all opportunities to extend children's awareness of positive differences in others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review further the organisation of some group activities to fully engage younger and less confident children in the learning experiences
- provide further opportunities that help children to become aware of and embrace the different home backgrounds and languages represented in the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and all the managers at various times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. There are thorough recruitment and induction procedures that help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff complete safeguarding training and have a good understanding of what to do if they have a child protection concern. Since the previous inspection, the managers have increased opportunities for parents and children to share their views. Staff value their contributions to the evaluation process and take relevant action to address their ideas. For example, they now provide parents with more information about activities children have enjoyed during the day. Staff work closely with parents, agencies and other settings involved to provide consistency in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff interact effectively with children and build on their learning. They encourage children to develop their own play and ideas, for example, when using construction materials. Staff give children opportunities to work out how they can make the pieces fit together and gently make suggestions when needed. They competently reinforce children's awareness of numbers, for instance, during everyday routines such as snack times. Staff talk to children about how many pieces they can cut the fruit into at snack time. They increase children's vocabulary by, for example, introducing new words as they play. Children learn how to use books to find out information. For instance, they fetched a book for an adult to find out the name of one of the toy dinosaurs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form strong emotional bonds with staff and invite them to join in their play. Staff teach children to share and be respectful. Since the previous inspection, they have improved their approach to managing children's behaviour and deal with incidents in consistent and effective ways. Staff successfully reinforce children's awareness of how to stay safe. Children show a good understanding of safety. For example, they talked about why there is a safety gate at the kitchen door. Staff actively encourage healthy lifestyles. For example, they provide plenty of opportunities for children to be active and build on their physical skills. Children enjoyed the challenge of aiming balls through a hoop.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop well in the skills they need for moving successfully on to school. They have good social skills and play happily with others. Children are well motivated and independent. They make their own choices and decisions. Children communicate effectively and readily share their thoughts and ideas. For instance, they talk to others about how snakes move. Children listen well and follow instructions. They follow good personal hygiene routines. Children show good early writing skills, for example, when they draw letters on a wall using brushes and water.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113694
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1099405
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	21
Name of registered person	Shekinah Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901991
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2017
Telephone number	01273462847

Shekinah Playgroup registered in 1992. It operates from several rooms in a Baptist church in Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex. The playgroup opens from 8.30am to 12.15pm on Monday, Tuesday and Friday, during school term times. It also opens from 8.30am to 3.30pm on Thursday. The playgroup is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup employs six staff; of whom, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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