

St Johns Playgroup

St. Johns Cricket Club, Forest Vale Industrial Estate, Cinderford, Gloucestershire,
GL14 2PH



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

26 April 2018

17 December 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 happy, confident and demonstrate they feel safe in their surroundings. Staff support children's emotional well-being effectively. They develop strong attachments with the children.
- Children make good progress relative to their starting points. Staff complete detailed observations and assessments and meet children's individual needs well. Children are motivated and eager to learn in the stimulating, exciting environment.
- The management and staff work well as a team. They regularly evaluate practice, monitor children's development and identify areas to improve for the benefit of the children.
- There are very good partnerships with parents and carers. Parents are encouraged to share information about what their children achieve at home. Information sharing is good. Parents are offered regular meetings with their children's key person to discuss children's progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff tend to do tasks for children that they are able to do for themselves and do not promote children's independence as fully as possible.
- At times, expectations for children are not clear and children are not encouraged fully to understand the routines of the day.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure every opportunity is used for children to take responsibility for themselves and to enable them to complete achievable tasks independently
- promote consistent expectations for children to enable them to fully understand the routines in the playgroup.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the staff interacting with the children, inside and outside the setting.
- The inspector had a meeting with the chairperson and play leader and offered a joint observation opportunity.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and looked at the provider's improvement plan.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, safeguarding procedures and other written policies and procedures.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are fully aware of the importance of monitoring children's non-attendance. They are clear about the signs and indicators of abuse that may alert them to any concerns about a child's welfare. The staff are confident about the procedures to follow should they have any child protection concerns about children in their care. Managers carry out regular supervision of the staff performance. The training needs of staff are identified to help maintain the good-quality teaching. Staff work closely with other early years settings that children attend to support consistency for the children. Parents speak very highly about the staff, the care provided and the progress their children make at the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The environment is welcoming, stimulating and interesting for children. Staff provide a good range of activities to support children's learning. They support children's communication and language skills well. Staff take time to listen to what children say and respond clearly to them. Staff support children's mathematical understanding well. Children count confidently and recognise numbers, shapes and quantity. Staff provide good opportunities for children to learn about the world around them. For example, they bring in eggs for the children to watch hatch and then hold the chicks. Children show great care as they hold the chicks and watch them move around.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and have good self-esteem. They enjoy their time at the setting. They have good opportunities to explore the world around them. They have regular and easy access to the outside play spaces, where they can develop their physical skills. Children enjoy digging for buried treasure in the mud, riding bicycles and cars down the slopes and climbing on the climbing frame. Children have a very good understanding about personal hygiene procedures. For example, they understand why they need to wear sun hats when the sun shines. Children know why they need to wash their hands after being outside, holding the chicks and after using the toilet. Children are well behaved. They understand about sharing and taking turns and make good use of sand timers when taking turns. Staff have a calm and caring approach towards all the children.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good communication skills. They sit enthralled and confidently take part in a story told by a member of staff who uses props. Children enjoy role play and organise games themselves. Staff prepare children well for their next stages in their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285690
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1070583
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	24
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	St Johns Playgroup (Cinderford) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907778
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2014
Telephone number	01594 826001

St Johns Playgroup registered in 1974 and moved to new premises in April 2004. It is situated on the outskirts of Cinderford. The playgroup is managed by a committee and opens during school term times, Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm and on Friday from 9am to 2pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of five staff works directly with the children; all have recognised childcare qualifications at level 3 or level 2.

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