

Smalley Pre-School Playgroup

Church Hall, Main Road, Smalley, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 6EF



Inspection date

2 May 2018

Previous inspection date

14 June 2017

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision	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

- The pre-school committee supports the manager and staff very well and values the team's skills and knowledge.
- Staff have good partnerships with parents, and involve them well in their children's learning. Parents speak very highly of the pre-school staff.
- Staff positively engage in training opportunities to refresh their skills. This has had a positive impact on children's learning and experiences.
- Staff promote early mathematics well. Children learn words, such as 'heavy', 'light', 'more' and 'balance'. They confidently use number as they count in everyday activities. This helps to establish the foundations of children's mathematical knowledge and language.
- Children are developing good levels of independence. They have a good understanding of daily routines and know what is expected of them. Children help to tidy away toys and help themselves to healthy portions of food at snack time.
- Staff are kind and caring. Children are happy, settled and enjoy their time in the pre-school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities to consistently motivate and challenge the older children to extend their capabilities.
- The programme for support and professional development of staff is not fully implemented to raise the quality of teaching to its highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more challenging opportunities to motivate and extend older children's learning and development
- strengthen the existing arrangements for the supervision of staff to focus even more sharply on raising the quality of teaching to the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and the chair of the committee. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of staff practice and discussed this with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Dawn Barlow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager, committee and staff have worked hard to meet the actions set at their last inspection. Staff welcome and value support from the local authority. As a result, teaching and assessment of children's learning has improved. Safeguarding is effective. The management committee and all staff are clear about the signs that would raise concerns about a child's welfare and know how to refer these to relevant agencies. The manager monitors children's progress effectively to identify any patterns or gaps in learning and address these.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They observe and assess children's progress well. Staff use this information to identify the next stages in their development and plan effectively for children's learning. Children show good interest in books and stories, individually and as a group. They are learning to recognise their own name in print as they register for snack. This helps them to build early literacy skills. Children develop a good understanding of using technology, such as using simple computer programmes on handheld devices. They are developing an awareness of the natural world around them. For example, they talk about what a broad bean needs to make it grow 'big and tall'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are secure in their surroundings and move confidently about the play space. They freely choose activities and resources that follow their own interests. Children enjoy being active. They undertake plenty of physical exercise throughout the day. For example, they eagerly joined in a game of 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' chasing each other energetically around the garden. Children learn to take small risks in their play. As they jump in puddles, they learn to take care on slippery surfaces in wet weather. Staff establish effective partnerships. They build links with the local community and the schools that children will attend to promote continuity for children's learning and well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated learners who are keen to explore and investigate. They make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for school. Children engage with enthusiasm in the wide range of activities available. Older children are confident communicators and interact well with each other. They enjoy choosing songs and join in with the actions as they sing along.

Setting details

Unique reference number	206856
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1101389
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 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Smalley Pre School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522044
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2017
Telephone number	01332 781283

Smalley Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1992. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8.45am to 2.45pm on Monday and Wednesday, and from 8.45am to 11.45am on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. There are five staff working with the children. Of these, one staff member holds a qualification at level 5 and three hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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