

Bumble Bees Playgroup

Trinity Rooms, Field Road, Stroud, Gloucester, GL5 2HX



Inspection date

3 May 2018

Previous inspection date

12 November 2015

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 develop their independence skills well. For example, children take an active part in preparation for snack time.
- Children make good progress relative to their starting points. Staff meet children's individual needs effectively. They provide a stimulating and interesting environment, and offer a range of activities that motivates children to learn.
- Children develop strong attachments with their key person and other staff members. They settle quickly into their play as they arrive at the setting. Staff support children's emotional well-being effectively.
- Links with parents are good. Staff share verbal information with parents when they collect their child at the end of the session. Parents are actively encouraged to share details about their child's achievements at home. Parents speak very highly about the staff and the good-quality care they provide.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make it clear to the children how much time they have left before activities change, to enable them to complete what they are doing to their satisfaction.
- Although staff have attempted to link with other early years settings children attend, they have not fully engaged with them to enable a consistent approach to children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review ways to help children understand about the passage of time and when a change of activity is going to happen
- extend partnerships with other early years settings that children attend, to fully support and complement children's care and learning experiences.

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 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 discussed 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 confident about the signs and indicators that may alert them to any concerns about a child's welfare. They monitor children's non-attendance closely. Staff confidently talk about the procedures they should follow if they have any concerns about a child in their care. The management team monitors the quality of teaching effectively. It carries out regular supervision of staff and identifies training needs successfully. Staff talk about how useful a recent training course on communication was in helping them model language better to support children's developing language skills fully. Staff regularly evaluate their practice and the activities they provide during daily meetings. They also maintain and keep their knowledge up to date through contact with other early years professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete detailed observations and assessments, and track children's progress effectively to extend their learning further. Staff provide a range of exciting activities based on children's ideas, such as when children ask for shaving foam and request to mix this with salt, fabric conditioner, food colouring and dried pasta. Children take great delight in exploring and talking about the different textures. Staff extend children's learning through questions, such as 'What does it smell like?', 'How does it feel?' and 'What is the difference now the salt has been added?'. Staff support children's communication and language, creative thinking and mathematical understanding effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved. They respond positively to the staff and demonstrate they understand the boundaries within the setting. Staff have a calm and caring approach towards all children. Children learn about good personal hygiene practices and healthy lifestyles. They enjoy playing outside and exploring the world around them. For example, they find teasels, talk about the seeds inside and how they can plant them to make more plants. Children have good levels of confidence and make friends at the setting. They organise their games and thoroughly enjoy developing their imagination. For example, they pretend the mound in the garden is a volcano with lava at the bottom, so they all need to be at the top. They help their friends get to the top of the mound safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy developing their early literacy skills, such as when they play in the 'hairdressers', writing names for appointments, using money and cards to take payments. Children understand about sharing and taking turns as they interact. They show care for each other. For example, when a child cries, another child tells a member of staff the child is upset. Staff prepare children well for their next stages in their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101555
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1126428
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	20
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Bumble Bees (Stroud) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519910
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2015
Telephone number	07817 468732

Bumble Bees Playgroup registered in 1986 and is a committee-run group. It operates from Trinity Church Hall near Stroud, Gloucestershire. Sessions are from 9am to midday on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 9am to 1pm on Tuesday and Thursday, during term time only. Three staff work directly with the children and all have recognised childcare qualifications at level 3. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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