

Vicarage Road Playgroup

Abram Community Centre, Vicarage Road, Abram, WIGAN, Lancashire, WN2 5QX



Inspection date

17 May 2018

Previous inspection date

14 June 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

- The manager and staff have addressed the issues identified at the last inspection to raise the quality of the playgroup to a good level. They ensure that correct ratios are adhered to and complete thorough risk assessments to help keep children safe.
- The dedicated staff team provides a nurturing, home-from-home environment for children. They respect and value every child's contribution. This helps children to be confident in their own abilities.
- The environment is organised effectively. Children arrive in good spirits and settle quickly. They make their own choices in their play and develop high levels of independence. All children make good progress from when they start.
- Staff support children's mathematical skills effectively. For example, they encourage children to count during everyday routines, such as when they line up as they prepare to go outdoors to play. Children explore and investigate during outdoor play. They find beetles hidden under equipment and exclaim, 'I have found a big one'.
- The views of children, parents and staff are sought, and acted upon to help improve the service provided. Self-evaluation processes are effective.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes do not utilise opportunities to encourage children to speak out and communicate to share experiences that are important to them.
- Staff do not gather enough information from parents about children's existing abilities on entry to help them to plan for their learning from the outset.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to speak out and communicate, and share experiences that are important to them
- gather more information from parents about what children can already do and achieve when they first start to help staff to plan for their learning from the outset.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the playgroup with the manager, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection. She observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She discussed self-evaluation processes, looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Daphne Carr

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff understand the procedures to follow if they have concerns about the welfare of a child. Recent training has led to all staff having up-to-date knowledge and understanding of wider safeguarding matters. Staff have also completed training in food safety to help promote children's good health. The manager regularly observes staff at work and provides support to help them to improve their performance. She holds regular meetings with staff to identify any future training needs they may have and to discuss children's learning outcomes. The manager carefully monitors the progress of individual and groups of children, and acts quickly on any gaps in their learning. Effective partnerships are established with other settings that children attend. This helps to promote consistency in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified staff use information gained from their assessments of children's ongoing learning well. Overall, they plan activities and experiences that are stimulating and exciting. Children are curious investigators. For example, they discover with enthusiasm how pasta travels through a funnel and appears through at the other end. Staff skilfully extend learning further. They explain and show children what happens when water is added to pasta. Children talk about how it becomes wet and sticky. This helps them to develop an understanding of change. All children are motivated and eager to learn.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are kind, friendly and welcoming. They are good role models and provide children with plenty of praise and encouragement. Children form close attachments with staff. They behave well and use good manners. Children develop good physical skills. For example, younger children enjoy kicking and passing balls to each other. Older children balance on beams. They jump off and land skilfully. Children develop good self-care skills. For instance, they wash their hands after playing outdoors and before eating their lunch. Parents comment positively about the care their children receive. For instance, they state 'Staff have helped my child to get ready for school. They are approachable and always make time to talk about my child's development. My child has come on in leaps and bounds, particularly with their behaviour and toileting skills'.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who are funded, make good progress. Older children learn to take responsibility and act as a buddy for new and younger children to help them to settle in. Older children scribe the letters from their name and develop good writing skills. Younger children are creative learners and enjoy messy play activities, such as making collage pictures using glue and coloured tissue. Children use their good imagination well during activities, such as role play. For example, they dress up in princess costumes and pretend to get married to a prince. This helps them to learn about recent events that are taking place in the world. Children are prepared well for future learning and for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477601
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1101376
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	22
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Sian Pilling
Registered person unique reference number	RP908710
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2017
Telephone number	

Vicarage Road Playgroup registered in 2014. The playgroup employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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