

Busy Bees Playgroup

Southwick Methodist Church, Manor Hall Road, Southwick, Brighton, East Sussex,
BN42 4NA



Inspection date	24 May 2018
Previous inspection date	24 September 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

- The well-qualified manager and her experienced staff team works very well together. They provide a well organised and child-focussed playgroup where children enjoy and learn in a purposeful environment.
- Staff have a very secure understanding of how children learn and develop. The varied range of exciting activities accurately reflects children's current interests and next steps in learning. Children are continually engaged, challenged and motivated to learn.
- Children are happy and settled in this welcoming and friendly playgroup. Staff are calm, caring and respond well to children's individual needs. Children form close and trusting relationships with staff. This helps them to feel safe and well cared for.
- Children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities are supported very well. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals, such as speech therapists to ensure children's needs are met. All children make good or better than good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not always give staff detailed feedback from her observations of teaching, to enable them to raise their quality of teaching further and help children make rapid progress in their learning.
- At times, staff do not make the best use of children's different home languages to support their development and learning needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve the procedures for monitoring the quality of teaching to help staff develop their practice further
- provide more opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language to use their home languages in their play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching indoors and outdoors, and considered the impact of this on children's learning and development.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager to assess how well she monitors and improves staff's practice.
- The inspector spoke to several parents, read written comments and took their views into account.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector met with the manager. She sampled some documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures, and looked at a few of the children's learning records.

Inspector

Susan Suleyman

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The ambitious manager successfully involves committee members, staff and parents in the evaluation of the playgroup. Together they accurately identify areas for further development and make improvements to help raise children's outcomes, such as changing routines to give more uninterrupted learning time. The manager encourages staff to access good training opportunities that increase their skills and knowledge. She regularly compares the learning of individuals and distinct groups of children. She then provides support to enable staff to act quickly to close any learning gaps. They use additional funding well to improve outcomes, such as providing books about tadpoles to encourage boys to read. Safeguarding is effective. The manager monitors welfare concerns and accidents carefully. Staff act quickly to minimise any potential hazards to help keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with motivating opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills throughout the playgroup. They consistently encourage children's curiosity and ask questions to extend their thinking and to gauge their understanding. Children mix resources and readily share their ideas. For example, children explore what happens as they pour water down guttering into a series of trays. They use mathematical language as they discover which tray fills up first and use containers with different sized holes. Staff skilfully use familiar songs and rhymes to help increase children's vocabulary, counting and listening. The manager and staff work closely with parents, keeping them fully informed about their children's development and how they can support their learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models and give children consistent and clear expectations, such as use 'indoor feet' to walk, not run, indoors. Children quickly develop a secure understanding of acceptable behaviour. They play together well, share, take turns and show respect for each other and the toys. Children respond excitedly to praise for their achievements and show good self-esteem. Children are very physically active and make full use of the exciting outdoor area. For example, they eagerly join in a game of hiding and finding pretend treasure after drawing a map. They learn about healthy eating and enjoy a variety of fruits for snack. Children talk about 'how much chocolate is good for you to have', during their play in the home corner.

Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well from their individual starting points. They gain the skills they need for the move on to school. They are enthusiastic and independent learners, who are interested in accessing their own resources. They explore and work out how to do things for themselves. Children listen to each other as they play together and establish friendships. Older children contribute well in group situations, such as a lively discussion about the recent royal wedding. They learn to count and write their own names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113398
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1126621
Type of provision	Full-time 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	32
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522677
Date of previous inspection	24 September 2015
Telephone number	07804 942495

Busy Bees Playgroup registered in 1992. It operates from a hall at the Methodist Church in Southwick, East Sussex. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including one member of staff who has a level 6 qualification. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term times. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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