

Fairlight Playgroup

Broadway, Fairlight, Hastings, East Sussex, TN35 4DA



Inspection date

5 June 2018

Previous inspection date

5 November 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

- Parents appreciate the frequent opportunities they have to discuss their children's learning and progress with staff. They value the advice they are given to help support their children's learning at home. Parents feel involved in playgroup events, such as the 'healthy cooking' day.
- There are caring relationships between the children and the adults in the setting and this helps to support children's emotional well-being. Children are happy, feel safe and behave well.
- Good relationships exist between the playgroup and the local schools to which children transfer. Information about children's daily needs and achievements is shared with schools and with other settings, where the care of children is shared.
- Staff work with parents to find out what children can do when they start at the playgroup and establish next steps in their learning. From then on, they plan suitable activities and observe children regularly as they play and learn. Children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently provide sufficiently challenging activities, especially for older children due to go to school.
- At times, staff do not give children a clear signal when there is a change of routine or activity, to help children understand what is expected.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the provision of more challenging activities, especially for older, most-able children
- give children clear guidance about what is expected of them when there is a change of routine or activity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager observed activities inside and outside and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documentation and policies, including those relating to the safeguarding of children, the management of their behaviour and the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager of the provision and discussed the setting's priorities for improvement.
- The inspector checked children's learning and progress records.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The staff understand the procedures to follow to help keep children safe and know whom to contact if they have a concern about a child's safety or welfare. The premises are checked daily to ensure they are safe and secure for children to use. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are effectively supported. Children benefit from the advice and expertise given to staff from external professionals, where this is required. Staff are well supported. They have regular meetings with the manager to discuss their training needs and this helps to support their improving knowledge and skills. The manager and her staff accurately evaluate their practice and identify appropriate areas to improve. For example, they have recently introduced additional equipment such as a climbing frame and a mud kitchen to support children's physical development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children to confidently lead their own learning. For example, children use the ride-on toys as ambulances during role play, to go and visit their patients. Children are very excited as they look through magnifying glasses to see the legs that the tadpoles are beginning to grow. They observe at close quarters the transformation from caterpillar to butterfly and identify the name of the butterfly from a book. Children voluntarily choose books from an attractive display to share with each other and they understand how books work. Staff skilfully develop children's language and communication skills. For instance, they use sign language and repeat sentences back to children very clearly and this helps their accurate pronunciation of words.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to be independent. For example, they pour their own drinks, spread their crackers with butter and cut up their bananas. They learn to share and take turns. Staff gently help children to resolve their conflicts, such as when there is a disagreement over a toy train. Children learn to understand that there are differences and similarities between themselves and others. For example, they cook food from other countries and play with a range of resources depicting different nationalities and disabilities. Staff effectively support children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. For instance, children are attentive as the hygienist demonstrates how to clean teeth thoroughly and they enjoy plenty of activities outside in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stage of their education, including school. They learn to recognise their own name and open their own pack of sandwiches. Children have opportunities for mark making and counting to 20. They practise writing the initial sound of their name in sand. Children learn to manage their personal care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109418
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1070100
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	15
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Fairlight Village Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522823
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2014
Telephone number	01424 814726

Fairlight Playgroup first registered in 1994. It operates in Fairlight, near Hastings in East Sussex. The playgroup is open Monday to Thursday from 9.15am to 1pm, during school term times. It receives funding for free early education for three- and four-year-old children. Two members of staff work with the children, who both hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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