

Playlanders Playgroup (St Georges Church Hall)

St. Georges Church Hall, Chesterfield Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB4 1LN



Inspection date

20 June 2018

Previous inspection date

4 December 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

- Since the last inspection, the provider has given high priority to ensuring all suitability checks are in place for staff and committee members. Staff turnover is low; despite this the provider has rigorous recruitment procedures in place. These procedures help to ensure that all adults are suitable to work with children.
- Staff gather comprehensive information from parents and use this information well, such as to help identify children's starting points in learning. The provider and staff successfully track children's ongoing development and this helps them to close any emerging gaps in children's learning and contributes to the good progress they make.
- Parents speak highly of the well-established staff team and appreciate the nurturing care it provides. They feel the good education the children receive prepares them well for starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not give children the best opportunities to express their ideas and give their own explanations as to why and how things happen.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities for children to express their own ideas and to develop their thinking skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's teaching and interactions with children, indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children and held a meeting with the provider.
- The inspector observed an adult-planned activity with the provider and held a discussion with her about staff's teaching skills and children's learning.
- The inspector looked at a sample of paperwork, including staff's qualifications and the suitability checks of staff and committee members. The safeguarding policies and procedures were also seen.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents, read written feedback from other parents, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a robust knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate concerns about children's safety and welfare. Staff regularly complete safeguarding training and understand how to swiftly refer concerns, both within the setting and to relevant agencies. The provider monitors staff's performance through regular supervisory meetings. Staff receive targeted professional development opportunities and talk about the positive impact training has on their practice. For example, they have widened their understanding of safeguarding and of how children learn. Staff observe each other leading activities and give constructive feedback. This helps all members of staff to continually improve their teaching skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's learning. These are used effectively to inform planning and support children's ongoing good progress. Staff regularly share children's development records with parents and with any other settings that children attend. This helps to promote continuity in children's learning. Staff help children to develop a good understanding of the world. For example, they watch how caterpillars hatch from eggs and eventually turn into butterflies. Staff teach children how to extend their knowledge, such as by using computers. Children quickly learn how to scroll through pictures depicting the life cycle of butterflies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have many opportunities for active play outside. Staff make wonderful use of the church grounds so that children can explore and learn to manage risk. For example, children climb trees and learn how to jump from a safe height. They are also able to run and find places to hide with their friends. Children show high levels of independence and develop good self-care skills. Staff encourage children to complete tasks for themselves, such as at snack times and when using the bathroom. Children engage very well in self-chosen activities. They cooperate well with their peers, such as by sharing resources and turn taking. Staff support children who speak English as an additional language to feel secure. For example, they use pictorial timetables showing the sequence of events throughout the day.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and gaining effective skills that prepare them well for the next stages in their learning and, ultimately, for school. They show a good understanding of space and shape as they independently complete puzzles. Children show a keen increase in science, such as by investigating with magnifying glasses. They look with interest at insects they have found in the garden and point out how big pictures seem in a book. Children are learning how to recognise and write their own names and other simple words.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221887
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1119499
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	25
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Playlanders Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519028
Date of previous inspection	4 December 2017
Telephone number	01223 420954

Playlanders Playgroup (St Georges Church Hall) registered in 1992. The provider employs five members of childcare staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens Monday and Wednesday from 9.10am until 2.45pm and on Friday from 9.10am until 2pm during term times. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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