

Pulford Playgroup

Pulford Road, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside CH63 2HN



Inspection date	26 September 2018
Previous inspection date	11 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Leaders share a strong commitment to provide the best possible learning experiences for children. They work closely with parents and children to review all aspects of the playgroup.
- Parents are very complimentary and express how happy they are with the service provided. They say that their children enjoy attending and they are pleased with the level of progress their children are making.
- Staff provide stimulating indoor and outdoor environments for children. Children make confident choices about their play and learning.
- Children have very secure attachments with staff who are very good role models. Staff have high expectations and help children to understand rules and routines. Behaviour is very good as a result.
- Staff work closely with schools when it is time for children to move on. Staff embrace opportunities to help children to become familiar with their new school environment and welcome class teachers, who visit children in the playgroup.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not consistently use staff supervision meetings to raise their already good practice to the highest level.
- Staff do not provide enough opportunities for children to use information technology as part of the educational programmes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the monitoring and supervision of staff, to identify individual development needs, tailor support and raise the quality of teaching to a higher level
- provide more opportunities for children to use information technology as part of the educational programmes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the senior managers. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision.

Inspector

Alison Hobbs

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. They are clear about the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff complete regular risk assessments to ensure the playgroup is safe and security arrangements are robust. Staff spend time with children discussing safety and assessing risks in many ways. For example, children help staff to tidy the outdoor area and ensure equipment is safely stored, in preparation for younger children attending the afternoon session. Managers monitor the progress of individual children. They quickly identify any children who may be at risk of falling behind and plan appropriate support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Children are very active and enjoy regular access to the inviting and well-resourced outdoor area. This area presents children with a varied range of opportunities across all areas of learning. For example, children use their developing team-working skills as they skilfully lift wooden planks into place to build balancing structures. Children work together as they paint and wash equipment when they are finished. Staff gather a range of useful information about children's interests and what they can already do, when they first start at the playgroup. Staff complete regular and precise observations and assessments of children's ongoing learning and development. This supports staff to plan accurate next steps for each child's learning. Staff take opportunities to promote mathematical skills. For instance, they encourage children to use number and counting during malleable dough activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time spent in the playgroup and enjoy many opportunities to develop their physical skills. For instance, children use a variety of wheeled vehicles to manoeuvre around the outdoor environment. Snack times are a highly social experience, children serve themselves their own snack. They talk about foods that are healthy and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. The key-person system works effectively. Children demonstrate that they feel confident and secure in the environment as they explore, while staff provide a narrative to support learning. Staff effectively support children's early communication and language skills. As part of this, they use books and stories as an opportunity to talk about emotions and feelings.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are focused, motivated and eager learners. Children develop a positive attitude to learning and all children make good progress from their starting points. They quickly gain the skills needed for their next stage in learning, including their eventual move on to school. Children develop self-confidence in expressing themselves. For instance, children begin to enjoy the experience of making marks when they use water and brushes to paint the wall.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306469
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10066915
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Robinson, Alison Claire
Registered person unique reference number	RP514002
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2015
Telephone number	0151 608 3500

Pulford Playgroup registered in 2009. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8.35am until 11.35am and 12.10pm until 3.10pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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