

Piglets Playgroup (Wolviston Base)

Wolviston Court Community Centre, Clifton Avenue, Billingham TS22 5DE



Inspection date	26 September 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff support children's learning effectively, overall. They plan activities that help children to build on what they already know and can do. This contributes to children's good progress.
- The playgroup has a warm, welcoming atmosphere where children demonstrate a strong sense of belonging. They form close bonds with caring staff who meet their individual needs well.
- Children benefit from plenty of time to make choices and lead their own play. This helps them to become confident and independent learners. They show a positive attitude to learning that helps to prepare them well for school.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. A well-established two-way flow of information helps staff to meet children's individual needs and support their learning both at home and in the playgroup. This is particularly effective in supporting children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities.
- The manager supervises staff effectively and encourages them to build on their knowledge and skills. Staff share their strengths and support each other to develop their practice. They feel valued and work together harmoniously.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not give children enough time and opportunities to solve problems they encounter during play.
- Staff have not fully explored more appealing and effective ways to encourage children's early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities children have to solve problems independently during play
- enhance the teaching strategies used to support children's early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She also spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at a range of documents, including evidence of the suitability checks carried out on staff.

Inspector
Clare Wilkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager gathers the views of staff, parents and other professionals to help her to evaluate practice and identify ways to improve. For example, following feedback from a parent she has introduced 'daily notes' to ensure parents have plenty of information about children's activities in playgroup. Safeguarding is effective. The manager carries out checks to ensure staff are suitable for their role, and staff are clear about the requirement to report any changes to their circumstances. Staff know what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. The manager checks the progress that children make to help inform plans for their learning. She shares information with other settings that children attend, which helps to provide a consistent approach to their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children show great imaginative skills during play. For example, they pretend to sweep the decks of the play boat before the 'pesky pirates' arrive. Staff support children's developing language skills well. They model new words that help to extend children's vocabulary, and they listen and respond skilfully when children engage in conversation during play. Children have plenty of opportunities to explore and investigate. For instance, they learn about texture and scents while making dough. This activity also supports their learning in mathematics. They count out the ingredients and compare sizes and quantities. Staff support children's physical development well. For example, children develop strength as they climb and balance outdoors. They learn to use tools, such as tongs, to collect conkers. This helps them to develop finer physical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children respond well to staff's clear guidance and their behaviour is good. They are aware of the needs and feelings of others and are beginning to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and their peers. Staff promote children's good health effectively. For example, they ensure children get plenty of fresh air and exercise and teach them about dental health. Staff support children to be independent in preparation for school. They offer them plenty of praise and reassurance which contribute to the high levels of self-esteem and resilience that children demonstrate.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well-motivated and curious learners who are keen to take part in activities. All children make good progress in their learning. Most achieve the levels of development that are typical for their age. Children who have SEN and/or disabilities benefit from tailored teaching and support that help them to participate fully in playgroup. Children develop key skills in literacy and mathematics that help to prepare them for later learning. For example, the recent introduction of a self-registration system helps older children to recognise their name. Younger children develop early counting skills as they beat a simple rhythm on a drum.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537026
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10076778
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Piglets Playgroup Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP521396
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07912546391

Piglets Playgroup (Wolviston Base) registered in 2016 and is one of the two settings run by Piglets Playgroup Partnership. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from 8.15am until 3pm from Monday to Thursday during term time. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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