

Jolly Time Playgroup

Woodland Way, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2DZ



Inspection date	6 December 2018
Previous inspection date	9 January 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

This provision is good

- Since the last inspection, the manager and staff have worked hard to successfully make significant improvements. This has had a very positive impact on the quality of the provision and outcomes for children.
- Staff use a variety of methods to engage parents and involve them in all aspects of the playgroup. For example, they have regular meetings to discuss children's achievements and provide parents with ideas of how to support children's learning at home.
- Staff and children develop close bonds and secure attachments. Children show they are emotionally secure and settle quickly into the calm learning environment.
- The manager has a clear vision for the playgroup and evaluates practice routinely. She uses feedback from parents, staff and children to identify and develop areas for improvement.
- Children play in a welcoming and engaging environment. Staff have sound expectations of children's learning. They plan a range of enjoyable and challenging activities and children are eager to join in. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Sometimes, when supporting play, staff ask questions to extend children's learning but do not allow quite enough time for them to think and respond.
- At times, group times are not well organised. Occasionally, children are not fully engaged in the activity leading to them becoming a little distracted.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with the time that they need to think, respond and talk through their own ideas
- improve the planning of group times so that the needs of all children are met fully, and their attention is maintained.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the manager and other staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector engaged with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff interaction with children during indoor and outdoor play, snack and hygiene routines.
- The inspector engaged in a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled various documents, including risk assessments, children's records and a range of policies and procedures.

Inspector
Becky Phillips

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a firm awareness of child protection and understand their responsibility to protect children from harm. The manager follows robust recruitment procedures and regularly checks staff's ongoing suitability. She monitors staff performance to ensure teaching improves and children continue to make good progress. Staff regularly attend training to enhance their ongoing professional development. Following training, staff have introduced language groups to support children to develop strong communication and language skills, including those children learning to speak English as an additional language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe and assess children's development, planning for their individual next steps in learning and continued good progress. Children eagerly join in play activities alongside staff who are very engaging and enthusiastic. Children enjoy being creative and experiment using different materials. For example, children delight in making musical instruments from recycled materials and decorate them. Overall, staff support children's communication skills well; they speak clearly and introduce new words to extend children's learning and vocabulary. Younger children enjoy sensory play, such as exploring shaving foam with different tools or catching toy fish with nets in water, supporting them to develop good hand-to-eye coordination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved. They are kind, considerate and well mannered, and confidently explain playgroup rules to each other. Staff are positive role models and help children to share and care for each other. They help children to feel valued and offer praise supporting their self-esteem and confidence. Staff teach children effectively about the importance of safety. For example, children engage in role-play situations, learning about road safety. Children enjoy healthy snacks and have plenty of opportunities for fresh air and exercise to support their physical development.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress, they are confident and enjoy their learning. Children learn early reading skills well and have access to a wide range of books that they can take home to read with parents. Children have good opportunities to become independent. For example, they learn to dress themselves before going outside and serve themselves at snack time. Children develop good skills that prepare them well for the next stage of learning and for moving on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY393807
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	10080258
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	North East Mitcham Community Association Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519228
Date of previous inspection	9 January 2018
Telephone number	02086859452

Jolly Time Playgroup registered in 2009. It runs from North-East Mitcham Community Centre, in the Borough of Merton. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm.

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