

Christ Church [Cheltenham] Pre- School Playgroup

Christ Church, Malvern Road, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire GL50 2JH



Inspection date	2 April 2019
Previous inspection date	9 February 2016

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

This provision is good

- Children are well settled, happy and confident in their surroundings. They demonstrate they feel safe and secure and have a sense of belonging at the setting. Children form strong attachments with their key person. This supports their emotional development well. Staff provide very good support for those children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Children are motivated and eager to learn. They make friends quickly and show care and concern for each other as they play. For example, when a child falls over, another child checks they are not hurt.
- Children make good progress in their learning relative to their starting points. Staff complete detailed observations and assessments on children. They plan a balanced range of exciting activities based around children's individual needs and interests. The management tracks children's progress clearly to enable them to quickly identify and close any gaps in learning.
- The manager monitors staff performance effectively. Staff attend extra training courses, to help support them further in their knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop.
- At times, staff tend to do things for children that they could easily do for themselves, such as pouring drinks and cutting up their own fruit.
- Staff do not consistently gather and share detailed information with other early years settings children attend to enable a shared approach to children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to complete achievable tasks for themselves, to help develop their independence skills and confidence in their own abilities even further
- extend information sharing with other early years settings, to enable a shared approach to children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with the children, in the inside and outside learning environment.
- The inspector had a meeting with the manager and offered the opportunity of a joint observation with her.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and looked at the provider's improvement plans.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, safeguarding procedures and written policies and procedures.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The committee and staff have a clear understanding about their roles and responsibilities of how to safeguard children. The committee provides good support for the staff as they carry out their roles. Staff are clear about the procedures to follow in the event of having any child protection concerns. They are aware of the signs and indicators that may alert them to any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff are very clear about the importance of monitoring children's non-attendance, to help ensure children are safe. The staff evaluate their practice regularly through daily discussions, visits to other settings and staff meetings. This helps to maintain the good quality of care provided and enables staff to develop their knowledge. Staff commented on how useful they felt some recent training on supporting communication and language for children has been. There are good partnerships with parents, who speak very highly about the caring staff and good quality of care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is consistently strong. Staff have a good understanding about how children learn. They use their qualifications well to promote children's learning and development. Detailed observations and assessments contribute to help the staff meet all children's individual needs well. Staff provide a stimulating, welcoming and interesting environment for children to explore and investigate the world around them. They support children's communication and language skills effectively. They question children skilfully to help them problem solve and make decisions. Staff support children's mathematical development well as they encourage them to count and recognise colours and shapes confidently.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system works very well. Children build strong bonds with their special person. They go to their key person regularly for reassurance, comfort or help with an activity. Staff are good role models. They use praise and encouragement effectively, which helps to support children's good behaviour, self-esteem and confidence. Children have frequent access to fresh air and exercise. They are able to experience the world around them, such as when they go on walks around the local area or to visit an old people's home. Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene practices, such as understanding the importance of washing their hands before eating.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy having the opportunity to develop their physical skills, such as when they use scissors to cut paper and string. They enjoy mark marking and attempting to write their name on their drawings. Children have good concentration skills, such as when they do jigsaws. Children enjoy listening and taking an active part in story time. Children are well prepared for the next stages in their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101464
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10063077
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Christchurch Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907429
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2016
Telephone number	01242 243021 or 07989124492

Christ Church [Cheltenham] Pre-School Playgroup operates from the church hall in Christchurch Church, Cheltenham. The group is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm during school terms. They are in receipt of funding for children aged two, three and four years. There is a team of five staff, four hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 2 or 3 and one has early years teacher status.

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