

Bolton Children's Opportunity Group Playgroup

Lowndes Street Nursery, Lowndes Street, Bolton BL1 4QB



Inspection date	3 April 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

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

- The management and staff team show a real passion to help children to achieve the best they can. Their proactive and dedicated approach helps to improve outcomes for all children. This includes the most vulnerable of children and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
- The enthusiastic management team set high expectations for the quality of practice. This vision is shared by the staff team. Staff provide a very inclusive, high-quality environment that is rich in exciting learning opportunities for all children.
- Staff provide parents with comprehensive support and ideas to continue children's learning at home. For example, parents use the activity cards to help to promote children's early mathematics and communication skills.
- Staff are very responsive to children's emotional needs and create safe spaces for them. This aids children's confidence and contributes towards them feeling happy, settled and ready to learn.
- The manager has not developed a highly effective programme of staff supervision and monitoring, particularly for the newest staff, in order to raise the quality of teaching consistently to the highest level.
- The manager does not regularly seek the views of parents in order to help to identify further areas for development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the systems of staff supervision and their continued professional development, in particular for less-experienced staff, to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- build on self-evaluation procedures to include the views of parents, to help identify further areas for development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of meetings with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Cath Palser

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Parents state that it is the only place they felt 'safe' to leave their child. Staff demonstrate a robust understanding of child protection issues. They have a confident understanding of their responsibilities in safeguarding children. Staff know the procedures to promptly identify and act upon any concerns that a child is being abused. They use ongoing observations to get to know children very well. This helps them to identify any gaps in children's progress and promptly seek early support. Staff work closely with other childcare professionals and external agencies. They provide targeted support for the large number of children with SEND. Additional funding is used effectively. The management team have sourced specialist physiotherapy sessions to help to support children's physical development. They have invested in focused staff training and new resources to aid children's communication skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote children's language and listening skills well in a variety of ways. They introduce new words as children play, such as naming the toy velociraptor. Staff capture children's interest and imaginations, for example, by using puppets to illustrate stories. Children thoroughly enjoy engaging in imaginary play. They use the tool kit to 'mend' the chair and ask staff for money to pay for their work. Children choose from a broad range of materials to design their own large collage. Staff use assessments to accurately plan to promote what each child needs to learn next. All children are developing the skills they need for future learning and for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a safe and tranquil environment that helps children to feel calm and settle in quickly. All children form very secure bonds with staff and develop good social skills. Parents say staff are very welcoming and help children to make friends. Children are praised highly for their contributions, achievements and good behaviour. This helps to boost their self-esteem and reaffirms the high standards of behaviour expected. Children know who to go to, to seek help and support are eager to invite others to join in with their play. They benefit from a stimulating range of opportunities outdoors to exercise and play with vigour and energy. Children practise their balancing skills as they negotiate the obstacles and build a tower using the empty boxes. Staff undertake specialised training to support children's individual health and care needs. They promote an environment in which children feel valued.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, enthusiastic and enjoy their learning. They acquire the skills they need for the next stage of their learning and beyond. Children develop good self-care and independence. They volunteer to help to prepare snacks and show persistence as they keep on trying to zip up their own coats. Children are eager to try new experiences and relish the satisfaction of completing tasks successfully. They demonstrate high levels of involvement and engagement and thoroughly enjoy their time at the playgroup.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY544904
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	10099437
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Bolton Children's Opportunity Group
Registered person unique reference number	RP544903
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01204 491085

Bolton Children's Opportunity Group Playgroup registered in 2017. The playgroup employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 2, including eight staff members who hold a qualification at level 3 and one who holds a qualification at level 5. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until midday and midday until 3pm, Monday to Wednesday, and 9am to midday on Thursday and Friday. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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