

St Giles Playgroup

North Leatherhead Community Association, Kingston Road, Leatherhead,
Surrey KT22 7PX



Inspection date	25 April 2019
Previous inspection date	3 November 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager and chairperson are extremely passionate about their roles and are committed to providing the very best learning experiences for children. They continually assess the quality of the provision to enable them to maintain the highest outcomes for children.
- Staff regularly consult with parents and they keep them exceptionally well informed about their children's progress. Parents comment that they are extremely happy with the swift progress their children make and with the highly individualised reports they receive on their children's development.
- Staff are exceptionally effective practitioners who provide stimulating learning opportunities for children. Staff are highly skilled in provoking children's curiosity and encourage them to explore, investigate and solve problems, which helps extend children's knowledge and skills even further.
- Children develop excellent bonds with others attending the playgroup. They receive exceptional levels of praise and encouragement and show immense delight in their achievements being added to the 'proud cloud'.
- Children are extremely well motivated to initiate their play and learning. For example, they enthusiastically set out the food on the shop shelves and are very knowledgeable about the produce as they tell the staff what they have to sell.
- Children learn to understand the need to take turns and occasionally this involves waiting. For instance, children fully understand that when the places are all taken at the snack table that they need to return shortly. Staff help children to grow in confidence and develop a very strong sense of belonging.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the already very good outdoor provision to strengthen children's enjoyment and learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed written documentation and held discussions with the manager, chairperson and staff regarding children's progress.
- The inspector sampled the setting's policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed the self-evaluation process with the manager and chairperson.
- The inspector spoke with parents to gain their views.

Inspector

Helen Penticost

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Staff work extremely closely with parents and other professionals, which enables them to provide exceptionally high-quality care and education. The manager and chairperson support staff very effectively and ensure they access targeted training, giving them a wealth of experience to greatly benefit children's development. For example, training has helped staff to become highly skilled in knowing when to observe children at play or when to intervene to extend their learning even further. The manager rigorously monitors assessments of children's development, which helps her to identify gaps in learning very promptly and to take swift action. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an exceptional understanding of child protection issues, including the wider aspects of safeguarding. They draw on recent training and experience to protect children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide parents with excellent information about their children's next steps in learning, topics and activities on offer. Parents state that this helps them to extend their children's learning at home. For example, following a topic on mini-beasts, staff plan highly purposeful activities and children make bugs from craft materials and bring them in to share with their friends. Staff are exceptionally effective in enabling children to lead their own play and explore. They skilfully deploy themselves to excellent effect to support children as they explore and investigate. For instance, they provided magnifying glasses, collection pots and identification sheets when children decided to go on a bug hunt. This captured a large group of children's interests for an extended period of time, completely capturing their curiosity and enthusiasm.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave extremely well and show great concern for others, for example when they have an accidental injury. They demonstrate exceptionally good manners and feel completely at ease to share their opinions, knowing they will be heard and fully valued by staff. Staff manage snack times exceptionally well, extending children's independence skills even further as they help to prepare food safely and hygienically. Outdoor play features greatly in playgroup sessions. Children relish opportunities to drive and steer their cars with extreme skill around the track. The manager has exceptionally well-targeted plans for how they can improve the outdoor space even further. Staff use additional funding very successfully to build on children's interests while incorporating their learning needs, such as purchasing resources to further extend social skills.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children work together exceptionally well and become fully engrossed in activities. They are extremely confident and imaginative. Older children gain an excellent understanding of mathematical concepts through innovative and fun ways. For example, they used numbered dice and counted out the corresponding numbers of plastic spiders. They then used tweezers to place the spiders on the cotton wool web. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make rapid progress in their learning from their individual starting points. Children develop essential skills that will equip them extremely well for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447774
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10102422
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	St Giles Playgroup
Registered person unique reference number	RP531663
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2016
Telephone number	07854825937

St Giles Playgroup first opened in 1992 and re-registered in its current setting in 2012. The playgroup is committee run and operates from North Leatherhead Community Association Hall in Leatherhead, Surrey. It is open Monday to Thursday between 9am and 3pm and on Friday between 9am and midday, during term time only. The playgroup receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years. Nine staff are employed to work with the children. The manager and deputy hold degrees in early childcare and education, and four staff hold childcare qualifications at level 3.

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