

Inspection of Woodland's Pre-School Playgroup

58 Stoughton Road, Leicester, Leicestershire LE2 2EF

Inspection date:

26 November 2019

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Children are happy and safe and clearly relish the time that they spend at the playgroup. A dedicated and caring team of staff is effectively supported by the owners of the playgroup. Staff place great importance on building strong relationships with children and their families. They have ambitious aspirations for all children's ongoing achievements. This, together with the inspiring opportunities that are offered to children, significantly contributes to the good progress that children make. However, the owner's knowledge and understanding of when to notify Ofsted of any changes to the setting, such as a change of manager, needs developing.

Children are developing positive attitudes towards their learning. Even the youngest of children show enthusiasm and high levels of engagement as they participate in group activities, such as yoga. Staff promote children's engagement through skilful interactions and by showing genuine interest in what children are doing. Children listen intently to what staff are asking them to do. They follow instructions as they explore how running and jumping make their hearts beat faster. These innovative opportunities help to provoke children's curiosity and a desire to learn.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff spend time finding out from parents what children enjoy and participate in at home. This helps them to identify activities and opportunities in areas that maybe unfamiliar to children. For example, they provide lots of physical outdoor opportunities for children. On other occasions, staff encourage children to observe the natural environment as they go for walks in woods that are adjacent to the playgroup.
- Staff interact very well with children. They understand when it is appropriate to stand back and allow children time to follow their own thoughts and when to intervene. Staff facilitate children's choice of activities across all areas of the curriculum, although opportunities are limited for children to develop their knowledge of technology.
- Staff effectively support children's communication skills. They talk to children as they play, speaking clearly and slowly. Staff also use sign language and pictorial images to support children's understanding, particularly those who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff monitor the progress that children are making. They carry out progress checks for two-year-old children. This helps them to plan for what children need to learn next. However, they do not consistently take account of children's differing learning styles.
- Staff support children to behave appropriately for their development stage.

Children are starting to understand and appreciate the impact that their actions may have on others. Staff are calm and consistent and praise children for their achievements. This helps to support children's well-being.

- Staff know children well and have a good understanding of their backgrounds, families and individual care requirements. They understand when children are tired and may require rest, or when they need a reassuring cuddle. Children develop close attachments with staff. They show that they are emotionally secure in their care. This promotes children's growing confidence and independence.
- Staff work closely with parents. They hold open days to encourage parents to come and experience for themselves the opportunities that are made available to their children. Parents speak highly of the care and progress that their children make at the playgroup.
- Staff have developed excellent partnerships with outside agencies and professionals. The playgroup is often recommended to parents by health professionals. Staff encourage teachers from feeder schools to visit children in the playgroup during children's last term to aid a smooth transition to school.
- The owners have worked hard to develop the quality of practice in the playgroup. However, in some instances, their knowledge of when to notify Ofsted of changes to their practice is insufficient. That said, they ensure that suitability checks are carried out on all staff. Staff's workloads are effectively monitored and every aspect of the welfare of staff is promoted. Supervision meetings and peer-on-peer observations assist in identifying future training needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge of how to ensure the welfare and safety of children in their care. They complete child protection courses on a regular basis to make sure that their knowledge of legislation is consistently up to date. Staff demonstrate a good awareness of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and the procedure that they should follow. Children are closely supervised by staff at all times and potential risks are minimised. Staff support children in understanding how to keep themselves safe, for example, when surfaces may be hazardous to walk on.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
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improve knowledge and understanding of when to notify Ofsted of any changes to the setting, such as notification of change of manager.	29/11/2019
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To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- take account of children's learning styles when planning for what children need to learn next
- introduce more opportunities for children to gain experience in the use of technology.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430347
Local authority	Leicester
Inspection number	10071646
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Your Cherubs Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903367
Telephone number	07852466638
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

Woodlands Pre-School Playgroup registered in 2011. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4 and four at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 4pm. Wrap-around care is offered from 8.15am. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Ann Lee

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager viewed the areas used. The manager outlined the setting's approach for caring for children and supporting their ongoing learning and development.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the staff and children during activities and assessed the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff and looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from information provided.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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