

Inspection of Auntie Ro's Playgroup

Lewis Road, Chichester, West Sussex PO20 0RG

Inspection date: 11 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive at the setting happy and excited to begin their day. They inquisitively ask questions about activities that are ready for them as friendly staff greet them. Children feel safe and secure. They speak confidently to staff about what they have been doing at home and initiate friendly conversations with peers.

Children quickly get involved with the various resources and activities available to them. The carefully planned out environment allows children to develop a range of different skills both inside and outdoors. They balance and create structures in the soft-play area. Children run, jump and climb using various outdoor equipment. Staff have high expectations for all children's learning, especially those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). They strive to create stimulating activities that provide meaningful learning opportunities. For example, children thrive as they build listening and attention skills through the recently developed box time activity.

Children are engaged and imaginative. They show interest and enthusiasm as they talk to one another in a friendly and respectful manner. For example, children enjoy making and playing with play dough. They are interested in the different ingredients, including paint and glitter. Children talk about the sticky mixture and use their imagination to pretend it is something else.

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

- Staff create a welcoming environment that encourages children to use independence skills and make their own choices about their activities. Children demonstrate this as they freely choose resources, including blocks and mark-making tools.
- Staff have good knowledge of how to identify and support children with SEND. For example, they specifically design and implement focused activities that support language development.
- Parents are happy with the progress made by their children. They know how to access updates and pictures through the online system. Staff develop positive relationships with parents, who are pleased with the level of support given to them, especially those who have children with SEND.
- Overall, staff consider how to organise the environment and provide resources to promote children's language development. However, during the morning session, activities that promote children's early literacy skills are not always actively encouraged. This means children who leave at lunchtime have less access to the setting's literacy curriculum.
- Staff aim to plan activities to engage and excite children. However, at times, activities are focused on younger children and do not provide older children with

suitably challenging learning opportunities.

- Children demonstrate positive attitudes towards behaviour and keeping themselves safe. For example, when running indoors, staff remind them of the golden rules. Children explain that they might fall over or bump into something inside, so it is not safe.
- Children demonstrate what they have learned and can remember, especially with independence skills. They are proud of their achievements when they put on their coats and do up their zips without support. Staff offer high fives and positive praise, giving children a sense of accomplishment.
- Staff support children's understanding of personal hygiene needs. They promptly help younger children to wipe their noses and give them appropriate cues to remind them of nappy changes. Older children understand what is expected of them as they use songs to ensure they have washed their hands effectively.
- Managers at the setting provide effective support to their staff. They support new staff by offering suggestions and verbal feedback about their practice. Staff feel supported by managers. They know they can access training and feel confident to ask for help with both work and well-being matters.
- Staff have access to a wide range of training and development. Managers have high expectations of staff and continuously review their professional development through appraisals.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers ensure robust safeguarding procedures are in place. They continuously support staff in keeping their knowledge up to date. Staff do this through in-house training and external online courses. Staff demonstrate that they understand wider safeguarding issues, including gender-based violence and abuse. Staff have a good knowledge of how to identify concerns and how to report them to the relevant authorities where necessary. Managers review their procedures and records regularly. They implement strategies to support them in identifying patterns that could lead to concerns, for example with accidents and home injury records.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen staff understanding of the literacy curriculum to promote consistent opportunities for children to develop their language and communication skills
- build on how activities for older children are planned to ensure they aim to provide ambitious and challenging learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113369
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10108420
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Auntie Ro's Playgroup
Registered person unique reference number	RP524163
Telephone number	01243 681820
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2013

Information about this early years setting

Auntie Ro's Playgroup registered in 1992 and operates from a hall at the Red Cross Centre in Selsey, West Sussex. The playgroup operates during term time only, each weekday from 8.30am to 3.30pm. It employs eight members of staff to work with the children, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nicola Houston

Inspection activities

- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and explained the setting curriculum.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed documentation relating to the suitability of staff at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.

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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