

Eastington Playgroup

OHMG Building, Snakey Lane, Eastington, Nr Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 3AQ



Inspection date

23 May 2018

Previous inspection date

3 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide an exceptionally warm and nurturing learning environment where children's well-being is given high priority.
- Staff are excellent role models. They are kind and gentle when speaking and giving clear instructions to children. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They know what is expected of them and respond well to the staff's continual encouragement.
- The staff have strong partnerships with parents. They regularly share information about children's learning and development. Children benefit from consistent experiences at home and in playgroup, such as reading together from books in special book bags.
- The play leader and staff analyse information about children's achievements well and develop intervention plans swiftly. All children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff extend children's already excellent awareness of a healthy diet at every opportunity. Parents can make an appointment to talk to a trained member of staff about children's nutrition.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not make the best use of opportunities to support younger children to engage and concentrate on creative activities to help extend their learning.
- On occasion, staff are not as effective as they could be in supporting children to develop their own play and ideas. For example, staff sometimes move on to another question without giving children enough time to think and express their own thoughts.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the quality of teaching for younger children to help them engage and concentrate on creative opportunities for longer periods, to support their learning and development as well as possible
- enhance the opportunities for children to develop their own ideas, and give them more time to respond to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children in play activities indoors and outdoors, looked at the available resources and carried out a joint observation with the play leader.
- The inspector held discussions with the play leader about leadership and management, safeguarding, and how they evaluate practice.
- The inspector held a discussion with the chairperson, talked with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's information, attendance records and developmental records, and talked with staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the committee and staff, and reviewed staff qualifications.

Inspector

Jan Harvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The committee and staff have a very good understanding of child protection procedures and know what to do to help protect children from harm. The dedicated and passionate play leader demonstrates a strong commitment to her role. She actively seeks the views of staff, parents, children and other professionals to help make improvements and provide high-quality care and learning experiences for children. She has high expectations of the staff and provides them with regular guidance and support to continue their professional development. For example, following the last inspection, staff have significantly developed the programme to deliver literacy to all ages of children to support their early reading and writing skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified and experienced staff plan activities and experiences to support children's next steps and ensure they make continued good progress. For example, they plan activities to help children of all ages develop early writing and number skills and link these to their current interests. Teaching is consistently good and in some instances, it is outstanding. Staff encourage children to be curious and think through problems. For example, when sponge painting, children work out how to count, represent and match numerals. Children use their imaginations well. For instance, they place plastic dinosaurs in the right habitat to find the food they need and talk about their different abilities, such as whether they can fly or not.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The extremely caring staff are very effective in helping children to understand how to keep themselves safe and healthy. For example, each day children eagerly take part in music and movement activities, and they share in preparing nutritious snacks using knives. Staff offer highly sensitive support to children to build confidence in their abilities. For instance, when younger children wanted to copy older children and hide plastic mini-beasts in the mud kitchen, staff encouraged older children to help them to lift and pour the soil to hide them. Children have excellent opportunities to engage in outdoor activities that develop their physical skills. For example, they take part in enjoyable, energetic games that enable them to run around and explore the natural environment.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared with the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and their move to school. They display exceptional social skills for their age. They show a great awareness of the needs of others, and freely share and take turns with resources. They develop very good independence with their personal care routines. Children enjoy exploring books and listen attentively to stories.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101782
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1126438
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Eastington Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519864
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2015
Telephone number	07977342742

Eastington Playgroup registered in 1998. It is based in Eastington, near Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. It is run by a management committee of parents. The playgroup opens four days a week during term time. Sessions run on Monday to Thursday from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The committee employs four members of staff who work directly with the children. Of these, three hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3. One member of staff holds early years professional status.

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