

Seend Playgroup

Irene Usher Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6NS



Inspection date	10 October 2016
Previous inspection date	23 May 2013

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The leader and staff have a good knowledge of how children learn. They take account of children's preferred learning styles and plan a wide range of exciting activities. All children make good progress from their initial starting points.
- The leader and staff are good role models. They teach children to build positive relationships with each other and to be kind, tolerant and respectful. Children behave well and receive lots of positive praise and encouragement.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. The leader and staff speak to parents daily about children's learning and provide activities to support this learning at home. Parents are very complimentary about the care their children receive.
- The leader and staff have high expectations for maintaining good outcomes for children. They have addressed the previous recommendations set at the last inspection and use evaluative systems well to help identify strengths and areas for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the leader and staff do not give children enough time to think about how best to respond to questions as they answer for them too quickly.
- Although the leader tracks individual children's progress, she does not yet monitor and track the progress specific groups of children make, in order to precisely target teaching and ensure no group is falling behind.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children more time to think about and express their thoughts and ideas
- build on the monitoring systems more effectively to help target teaching and measure and support the progress that specific groups of children are making.

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 sampled a range of documentation including attendance and accident records; staff suitability checks; the self-assessment information; children's observation, assessment and planning records; and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the play leader.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the play leader.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector
Julie Swann

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The leader and staff ensure they are up to date with current safeguarding practice and understand the procedures to follow should they have any concerns. Furthermore, recruitment and induction procedures are effective and help ensure that those who work with children are suitable. The leader has high expectations for her staff team. For example, she works alongside them daily and provides ongoing coaching and support, in order to help raise the current good standards of teaching. The leader and staff are well qualified and committed to continuous professional development. For example, they select and attend a range of training opportunities which have the most impact on the outcomes for children. The playgroup has good partnerships with other professionals to support continuity in children's care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete regular observations and assessments to recognise children's achievements and to plan for their next steps in learning. Overall, staff support children to develop their communication and language skills effectively. For example, children learn about linking letters and sounds, and repeat new vocabulary such as 'gallop' and 'graze'. Children play imaginatively. For example, they ride on a magic carpet to Australia and make a space rocket as they attach boxes and cardboard tubes together. Children are developing good literacy skills. They find their names at self-registration and write notes as they play. Children sit happily with staff and listen to stories. They join in with repeated phrases, which helps support their developing interest in early reading.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is effective and children form secure emotional attachments with all staff who know them well. Staff support children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle and good personal hygiene routines. For example, children talk about what food is good for them and wash their hands regularly. Children develop their physical skills and learn to play safely. For example, they dig in the mud and climb, slide and balance as they use play equipment in the adjoining park. Staff help children to understand similarities and differences in the wider world. For example, children enjoy activities based around cultural festivals and take part in regular walks in their local environment.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are developing the skills required for the next stage in their learning and the eventual move on to school. Children are confident, independent learners and socialise well with others. Children develop a good understanding of numbers and colours and are learning to count, sort and match items. Children freely access the well-resourced environment throughout the session, which helps them to make choices in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	146057
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1061504
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Seend Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907882
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2013
Telephone number	07803 403 356

Seend Playgroup has been open since 1974. The playgroup operates from the Irene Usher Pavilion in the village of Seend near Devizes. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The playgroup opens on Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 12.45pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and on Wednesday from 11.45am to 2.45pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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