

Rainbow Playgroup

Spring Lane, Colden Common, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 1SB



Inspection date

11 June 2015

Previous inspection date

9 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make excellent progress in their learning because staff deliver high-quality teaching tailored to meet the interests, needs and strengths of each child. Staff work exceptionally well with parents to further enhance children's learning.
- Staff prepare children with less experience or confidence when they begin pre-school exceptionally well for the next stage in their learning. Staff are quick to identify children whose learning is not at a typical level for their age and secure timely interventions to ensure all children reach their highest levels of achievement.
- The manager has a thorough understanding of her role in meeting legal requirements for safeguarding and welfare. She ensures staff follow effective policies and procedures to support children's health, safety and well-being. Staff regularly update their training and evaluate their practice in child protection, paediatric first aid and health and safety procedures. Children thrive in their care.
- Children are taught to be safety conscious without being fearful through well-planned daily routines and frequent trips into the community. Children demonstrate an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves healthy as they explore and learn.
- Highly effective partnerships with staff at local schools ensure that children are socially, emotionally and academically ready for school. Visits, photographs and rich experiences prompt children to talk through their next challenge with enthusiasm.
- Staff use their training well to make improvements to their practice. For example, recent training on working with two-year-olds means staff have improved young children's understanding of behaviour boundaries.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider different ways that children can play outside more often in all weathers.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the pre-school and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding, staffing, supervision, risk assessment, equal opportunities, and health and safety, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records, the pre-school's systems for planning, evaluation, and exchanging information with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff know the children in their care extremely well and develop their current interests to create exceptional learning opportunities on a daily basis. Children learn about rules, thrones and weddings as they create and play with castles, crowns and swords. They learn to plan, think through locations, draw maps and write their names on tickets as they prepare for a treasure hunt or a disco. As staff engage with and enhance children's thinking, children learn an extensive range of new vocabulary, concepts and skills. Children become excellent communicators as they are so enthusiastic and motivated to exchange information, ask questions and express their own ideas. Children, parents and staff share verbal updates on a daily basis. Staff underpin these with daily observations, regular assessments, written reviews and, where appropriate, liaison with specialist professionals.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Experienced staff are exceptionally good at nurturing children's emotional well-being and preparing them for change. Home visits, stay and play sessions, and a wealth of shared information show the importance staff place on developing highly effective partnerships with families from the start. Children gain confidence and self-control as they frequently investigate, and develop a respect for, their community. Through hands on investigations of the natural world staff teach children about the life cycles of frogs, butterflies and hens. Children experience the workings of their allotment, meet neighbours, grow produce and learn to prepare healthy meals. Highly safety-conscious staff complete detailed risk assessments and diligently manage medical and dietary guidance. They also teach children how to manage physical challenges and keep themselves safe as they build camps, climb, pedal, and handle sharp tools to dig and cut.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The manager and the chairperson for the committee know and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to a very high standard. Regular supervision and training keeps the already well-qualified, professional staff constantly improving their first-rate practice. Consequently, children benefit from excellent teaching and plentiful, high-quality learning experiences. The manager monitors the delivery of the educational programmes, planning and assessment extremely effectively. This enabled her to identify subtle variations in the delivery of mathematics. In this case, staff quickly added further resources and teaching strategies to support mathematics throughout every area of play. Regular staff meetings and opportunities for self-evaluation ensure that the team continues to improve the achievements for all children. Staff and children make excellent use of their own outdoor area. However, a lack of shade on hot days and shelter on very wet days has an impact on the length of time children can use the area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110010
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	839662
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	Rainbow Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2010
Telephone number	01962 713368

Rainbow Playgroup registered in 1997. It is a committee run group located in Colden Common, near Winchester, Hampshire. The pre-school is open from 8.30am to 3pm on Monday to Wednesday and from 8.30am to 1pm on Thursday and Friday, during school term time. The pre-school is currently in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. All eight staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above.

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