

Barns Green Playgroup

Village Hall, Muntham Drive, Barns Green, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 0PT



Inspection date

9 July 2015

Previous inspection date

23 March 2011

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff have a strong understanding of the children because they make good use of developmental records to establish their developmental needs and interests. Staff plan for each individual child and therefore they meet their needs.
- Staff apply effective strategies to ensure all children can communicate and learn to talk. They follow carefully considered guidelines to support children who need extra intervention in their language development.
- Parents can follow up children's learning at home because staff keep them informed about their children's progress and experiences. Parents share information about their children. Therefore, continuity in care and learning is good.
- Children experience healthy lifestyles because the manager places a great emphasis on teaching parents about suitable packed lunches. Children enjoy the fresh air and exercise when they use the local facilities, promoting their physical well-being.
- Staff have a consistently strong knowledge of safeguarding procedures. They help to update policies and therefore stay well informed of how to keep children safe.
- The manager undertakes weekly evaluations to ensure all staff are aware of how to meet every child's needs. Therefore, children all develop well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make effective use of questions to allow children to consider and develop their own ideas.
- Staff do not always allow children flexibility in their use of resources. Therefore, children do not always have opportunities to learn from their own discoveries.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the staff's use of questions to give children opportunities to consider and develop their own ideas
- allow children more freedom in their play so that they can explore their own ideas and learn through the discoveries they make.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation, and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took account of parents' views spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Kerry Lynn

Inspection findings

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

Children engage attentively in activities that staff plan according to their interests. For example, children showed an interest in colour changes as they painted, so staff planned a paint mixing activity. Children mixed together paints in a pot and observed the changes. Children learn from hands-on experiences. They are inquisitive and want to find out about things. For instance, when they found hand whisks in the water tray, they asked questions and experimented with them. Staff prepare children well for future literacy. They take books home to share with their families and develop a positive interest in books as a result. They enjoy practising early writing as they engage in fun activities that develop these skills. Children have opportunities to share experiences or items with their friends. This helps them to develop self-confidence ready for their future learning.

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

There is an effective key-person system in place. Staff know their key children extremely well and take responsibility for their care and development. Relationships between staff and children are strong. Children go to their key workers when they want comfort. Children learn to keep themselves safe because staff give them regular opportunities to consider the risks of their actions. The manager takes attentive steps to make the move to school easy for children. With support from a teacher, she has created a document for parents. This offers ideas for continuing to develop children's independence in the home ready for when they start school. Children find out about the wider world because staff recognise and celebrate individual cultures. Staff welcome parents into the setting to share experiences and foods from countries they come from. Staff greatly respect children's views. When children look at their photographs and work, they input their own views. These are valued as staff add them to the pages. Children know that their opinions matter because they make choices in the setting.

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

Staff are all qualified. Therefore, they are able to apply their knowledge to support children effectively. The manager observes staff frequently and uses weekly reflections to praise and improve their practice. The manager looks at patterns in children's progress to identify weaker areas and develops strategies to overcome these. For example, staff have improved the provision for mathematical development because of her findings. The manager implements information gained from staff training to benefit the children. A positive behaviour management course enabled staff to find positive strategies to manage a range of behaviours. This makes for a happy and friendly environment. The manager applies strategies that arise from robust risk assessments to ensure the children are safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113371
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	839850
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Barns Green Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2011
Telephone number	01403 730093

Barns Green Playgroup was established in 1978 and registered in 1992. It is managed by a voluntary committee and operates from the village hall in Barns Green, near Horsham, West Sussex. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday from 9.15am to 12.15pm, during term time only. A lunch club operates every day when children may stay until 1.30pm. The setting receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. All seven members of staff have appropriate early years qualifications.

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