

North Somercotes Playgroup



North Somercotes C of E School, School Lane, North Somercotes, Louth, Lincolnshire,
LN11 7QB

Inspection date	13 March 2017
Previous inspection date	25 February 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 playgroup is effectively led by a knowledgeable and skilled management committee. The manager is very passionate and committed to providing good quality care and learning for children. Feedback from parents, staff and children help her to identify and implement improvements to continually improve the experiences children receive.
- The manager and staff work very well in partnership with the host school. Information is shared about children's care and learning. Staff take children for activities in the school hall, field and swimming pool. This helps children to be aware of the environment in preparation for when they move on.
- Staff understand how children learn. Through their observations and discussions with children, they are able to plan a range of exciting activities based on children's interests. This helps children to be motivated to learn and make good progress.
- Staff place high priority in celebrating children's uniqueness and helping them to feel confident and self-assured.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not use all opportunities to monitor staff performance to raise the good standard of teaching to the highest level.
- Staff do not gather enough information from parents about what their child already knows and can do when they first start attending.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on monitoring teaching practice to identify the professional development needs of individual staff to help raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- involve parents more fully in the initial assessment process of children's learning to find out what children already know and can do when they first start attending.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have attended child protection training and discuss children's safety at staff meetings. They know the procedure to follow to report any concerns they may have regarding children's safety. The manager works alongside her staff and supports them well in their roles through meetings and annual appraisals. Staff discuss their practice and are helped to identify ways to close any gaps in their key children's learning. Staff work well in partnership with parents to help children learn key skills in readiness for their move on to school. Parents comment positively about the playgroup. They share information about children's achievements at home through Wow comments that are displayed. This helps to raise children's self-esteem.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff provide a well resourced and inviting environment for children. Staff greet children warmly when they arrive and join in with their play. Accurate assessments enable staff to plan for children's next steps in learning, helping them to make good progress. Staff help children to extend their problem-solving skills. They encourage children to match shapes together when solving a puzzle. Staff provide children with many opportunities to extend their literacy skills. They encourage children to recognise the first letter of their name. Staff draw large letters with chalk outdoors, which children copy using a brush and water. Staff take time to listen to children during their play and give children good eye contact. This enables children to freely express themselves through conversations and they know that their views are valued and appreciated.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form strong bonds with staff and readily ask them for help. This shows that they are emotionally secure. Staff provide children with opportunities to take responsibility for their playgroup. Children enjoy using a dust pan and brush to sweep up rice and help to hand out cups before snack time. Staff promote children's independence and encourage them to do zips on their coats and to wash their hands prior to eating. Staff give children lots of praise and encouragement which promotes positive behaviour. They encourage children to help each other and to understand how others are feeling. Staff follow the same methods of celebrating children's achievements as the host school, which supports consistency when children move on.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress. They are motivated and thoroughly enjoy playing outside where they develop their physical skills. Children develop their knowledge of nature and the environment. They spread peanut butter and seeds onto cardboard tubes and hang these in the trees for birds. Children extend this further as they build a nest for birds using sticks and grass. Children gain a good understanding of their local community and visit places of interests, such as the hairdressers, fire department and the church.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY451962
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1066220
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	North Somercotes Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517272
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2013
Telephone number	01507359330

North Somercotes Playgroup was registered in 2012. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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