

Pangbourne Valley Playgroup

Kennedy Drive, Pangbourne, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 7LB



Inspection date

23 June 2017

Previous inspection date

5 October 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 management team has successfully improved the education offered to the children since the last inspection. Staff now fully observe, track and check children's ongoing learning and development to assist in ensuring they all make ongoing progress.
- Staff are well supported by management, and benefit from ongoing supervision and training. For example, staff recently undertook training in managing feelings which has helped them to understand and be consistent in how they support children's behaviour.
- Children enter the pre-school with confidence and settle well to self-chosen activities. Staff know the children well and offer good support, which encourages them to separate from their parent/carer with ease.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff keep parents fully up to date about their child's day and successes. For instance, they talk and meet regularly with parents to share achievements.
- Good self-evaluation procedures are in place to reflect on and improve the quality of provision for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some staff do not consistently encourage and support children's ongoing independence skills in everyday care tasks.
- Children's knowledge and understanding of similarities and differences in people in the world around them are not as well supported as other aspects of their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create more ways to help children extend and build on their independence skills
- extend children's knowledge and understanding of similarities and differences of people and communities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outside of the pre-school and watched the learning experiences available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff, and spoke to children about their experiences.
- The inspector spoke to some parents about their views and opinions of the provision and considered these.
- The inspector sampled documentation.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and observed practice with the manager.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team, staff and committee work well together and have improved the pre-school and ensured all requirements are met. All staff are effectively recruited and benefit from regular team meetings. These help ensure they are all suitable, confident and capable in their roles and responsibilities. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a strong understanding of child protection matters. Staff implement comprehensive risk assessments and maintain the safety and well-being of all children. Strong partnerships are in place with other early years professionals and additional funding is used effectively to enhance children's experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan and provide a varied range of activities to help and enhance children's learning and development. The management team monitors children's progress effectively. It tracks children's progress and seeks any required intervention at the earliest stage. This enables it to meet children's individual needs well. Staff support children's communication, language and mathematical skills well. For instance, when children explore with dough, staff ask children questions about what they are making. During conversations staff use language around numbers and sizes well, which enables them to build on and develop children's learning. Staff promote children's literacy and concentration skills well. For example, children sit and listen attentively to stories, which are read well to them by staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff offer good support to the children and help them to develop their social skills well. For example, staff are always on hand to support play and children are encouraged to share and chat informally to their friends during play. Staff aid children's understanding of safety well. For instance, when children run inside, staff offer good explanations about the potential dangers of this to help them think about the risk. Staff support children's learning of healthy lifestyles well. For example, staff chat informally to the children about the importance of drinking regularly to keep them hydrated. Staff encourage children to be physically active. For example, all children have opportunities to play outside and enjoy climbing on equipment and exploring in the mud kitchen.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning and development, and demonstrate that they are well prepared for the next stages in their learning. Children enjoy learning. For example, they have fun playing music and singing to songs as they explore with instruments. Children have many opportunities to be imaginative. For instance, they have fun dressing up and enjoy pretending to be mechanics as they fix vehicles with tools.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110733
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1075216
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 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Pangbourne Valley Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904697
Date of previous inspection	5 October 2016
Telephone number	01189841661

Pangbourne Valley Playgroup registered in 1998. It is situated within the grounds of Pangbourne Primary School in purpose-built premises and is run by a management committee. The setting opens from 9am to 3.15pm on Monday to Thursday, and from 9am to 11.30am on Friday, during term times. A lunch club runs from 11.30am to 12.45pm on Monday to Thursday. A team of six staff work at the setting, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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