

South Cerney Pre-School Playgroup

Berkeley Close, South Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 5UW



Inspection date	18 October 2018
Previous inspection date	19 October 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The new manager is focused on developing the quality of the provision and provides strong leadership to the staff team. She monitors practice closely and takes effective steps to bring about improvement.
- Staff use the observation, assessment and planning processes effectively to identify and reflect children's interests and build on their previous learning. They help children to make good progress overall in preparation for school.
- The manager, committee and staff develop very positive partnerships with parents, who state that they highly value the support they receive.
- Children behave well, form positive relationships and learn to respect each other.
- Staff have built a strong bond with the children, who arrive eager to learn. Staff are close on hand to offer cuddles of reassurance to children, helping them to settle quickly. This helps build children's self-esteem and confidence successfully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff working with the younger age group overlook opportunities to engage children fully in more purposeful play, to broaden and challenge their skills further.
- Children do not have as many opportunities as possible to explore and initiate their own ideas without adult support.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop more consistency in the quality of staff practice to ensure that all age groups receive the same high standard of teaching
- enhance opportunities for children to explore and follow their own ideas to develop their self-initiated play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the manager, some children, parents and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents available, including those relating to the premises, staff suitability and safeguarding.
- The inspector observed activities and daily routines, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and viewed resources available for the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager to observe interactions between staff and children.

Inspector

Tracey Cook

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager makes effective use of training, coaching and supervisory sessions to develop staff knowledge and experience, and improve learning outcomes for children. However, this is not fully embedded. The manager has accurately identified areas for development, including the provision for younger children. Safeguarding is effective. The provider follows safe recruitment procedures to ensure all staff working with children are suitable. The manager and staff are fully aware of their responsibility to keep children safe. They know the correct procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out assessments of children's development and have a clear understanding of their next steps in learning. They plan learning experiences that are based on children's interests to fully support their play and learning. Generally, teaching standard is good. Staff skilfully extend children's problem-solving skills and mathematical development. Staff help children to use a variety of tools and develop good coordination in preparation for early writing. Staff encourage children to take part in activities which support their listening skills. For instance, children enjoy listening for instructions to shake their instruments loud or soft during large group time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are attentive to the needs of each child and teach them good hygiene practices. Staff offer children lots of praise and encourage them to be independent. They provide healthy snacks and encourage parents to provide healthy lunch boxes. Children benefit from regular exercise and fresh air as part of the daily routine. They enjoy digging in the mud, crawling through the tunnels and running around in the garden. This helps support their physical development but also helps them learn about healthy lifestyles. Children learn to manage risk and play safely. For example, children learn how to cut the fruit up safely when preparing their snack.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children are independent, confident and develop good critical-thinking skills. For instance, they use their imaginations to create a bridge using twigs and bricks, and use mathematical skills to work out how many bricks they will need to make the bridge balance. Younger children enjoy listening to stories and rhymes, which helps develop their early literacy skills. All children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101528
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10077398
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	South Cerney Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519889
Date of previous inspection	19 October 2017
Telephone number	01285 860 340

South Cerney Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1969. It is situated within the grounds of the Church of England School in the village of South Cerney, near Cirencester, Gloucestershire. A management committee runs the group. The playgroup operates during term time only. Children may attend sessions Monday to Friday from 8.55am to 2.55pm. The committee employs 10 staff to work directly with the children, including the manager. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, one holds a qualification at level 5 and four hold qualifications at level 3.

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