

Eckington Under Fives Playgroup

The Recreation Centre, Pershore Road, Eckington, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10
3AP



Inspection date	7 October 2015
Previous inspection date	25 February 2015

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

- Staff understand how children learn and develop. They successfully plan activities based on children's individual interests and abilities. This helps children to make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff ensure that parents are well informed about their children's learning and development. This helps to promote a joint approach to supporting children's learning at home and in the setting.
- Staff are highly skilled in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. Staff are kind and caring and respond well to children's individual needs. This helps children to settle quickly and feel emotionally secure.
- A culture of continuous improvement is fostered. The provider and manager have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the pre-school and involve staff, parents and children in identifying areas to develop.
- Staff have good links with local schools and they share information well. This helps to prepare children for their eventual move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers do not evaluate the impact of the staff's teaching sufficiently to raise the good quality of teaching to the next level.
- Staff do not consistently gather enough information from parents about what children can do when children first start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- look more closely at the impact of teaching and use this information to further raise standards and help children achieve at the highest level
- gather more information from parents when children first start, in order to be able to plan precisely for children's individual learning needs from the outset.

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 completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager has attended relevant training and understands her role in protecting children. Staff are aware of the procedure to follow should there be concerns about the welfare of a child in their care. The provider and manager follow robust recruitment and vetting procedures, including gaining regular updates on the suitability of staff. The setting has made improvements since the last inspection. These include the monitoring of staff deployment to ensure the qualification requirements are consistently met. Self-evaluation is used to set targets for improvements. However, this is not yet used to look closely at the impact of teaching and sharing of good practice. The manager monitors the children's progress and development and uses this information to plan for any gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Most staff are qualified and this has a positive impact on the quality of teaching. Staff regularly observe what children can do and how they prefer to learn. This helps them to provide stimulating and interesting activities that children enjoy taking part in. Staff support children well in their chosen play. They offer sensitive support and encouragement to children who are more reluctant. This helps children to take part in new activities and learn new skills. Children are motivated learners and they stay engaged and interested in the activities on offer. Children have fun at the pre-school. Squeals of delight can be heard as they play and explore cornflour, letting it run through their fingers. Children enjoy splashing in muddy puddles outdoors, and can do so while having the protection of suitable clothing that is provided by the pre-school for all weathers. Parents are involved with children's learning. Staff share ideas and resources that help parents to continue with their children's learning at home. However, information gathered from parents when children are new to the setting does not include details about what children can already do.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. Staff promote children's confidence and self-esteem through positive praise and encouragement. Children are encouraged to become independent and take care of their own self-care needs. They confidently put their own waterproof trousers and coats on before going to play outside. Staff help children to understand the importance of regular exercise and healthy snacks and meals. This is done through discussions at snack times where staff sit with children and engage them in purposeful conversations.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff provide a welcoming and interesting environment that interests and excites children. They enjoy their time spent at the pre-school and laughter and giggles can be heard throughout the day. Staff respond well to children's individual needs and plan exciting and purposeful activities that all children enjoy. Children make good progress and gain the necessary skills required to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205317
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	1008349
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Eckington Under Fives Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2015
Telephone number	07582452024

Eckington Under Fives Playgroup was registered in 1992. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including two with Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm on Mondays and Wednesdays and from 9.15am to 12.15pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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