

Wildwood Hall Playgroup

Wildwood Community Centre, Wildwood, Stafford, Staffordshire ST17
4RA



Inspection date	5 March 2019
Previous inspection date	28 March 2018

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

This provision is good

- Staff work hard to support children who are at risk of falling behind in their speech and language development to catch up with their peers. They work well with specialist agencies to ensure they have the right skills and knowledge to secure every child's good progress.
- Staff work closely with parents to make sure care is tailored to individual children's needs. They are very aware of children's personal circumstances and are sensitive in their handling of every situation. As a result, children are emotionally secure and happy at playgroup.
- Children in the pre-school age group are very well prepared for school. The curriculum is planned well to focus on developing the skills, knowledge and aptitudes children need for the next stage of their education.
- Staff have a secure knowledge of the wider safeguarding agenda. They are aware of potential risks and are very knowledgeable about other agencies involved in the protection of children and the importance of working in partnership with them.
- Not all staff working with younger children are highly skilled in using questioning to support children's learning as effectively as possible. They sometimes rely too heavily on questions that require only a one-word answer, which does not fully promote children's thinking and learning.
- Staff do not effectively support children as they begin to understand the consequences their behaviour can have on themselves and others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop a stronger ability among staff working with younger children to question skilfully as part of an effective range of teaching techniques
- provide more support to children as they begin to understand the consequences their behaviour can have on themselves and others.

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 playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and staff about the quality of the provision.

Inspector
Ruth Rothwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers have responded promptly to improve the quality of the provision since the last inspection. All members of the committee and staff have had their suitability checked to promote children's safety and welfare. Safeguarding is effective. The manager involves staff, parents and children in identifying the strengths of the playgroup and any areas that could be improved. She acts promptly to make changes that actively benefit the children attending. This includes providing suitable development opportunities for staff that build on their knowledge and skills and have a positive effect on outcomes for children. Staff work in close partnership with parents. They involve them in establishing what children already know and can do, and support them to guide their children's learning at home. Parents speak positively about the care their children receive and feel that individual needs are well met. Staff have developed strong links with other professionals involved in children's lives and make the most of these to help children achieve well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The programme of regular observation and the assessment of children's progress is very effective in ensuring that staff know the children in their care well. Key persons have a good understanding of what children know and can do, and what they need to learn next. They take account of children's interests and stage of development to plan activities they know they will enjoy and benefit from. For example, pre-school children particularly enjoy learning about how things grow as they plant seeds. Young children enjoy outdoor play and engage enthusiastically in riding tricycles and scooters, racing cars down a drainpipe track or chalking letters on a blackboard. Staff use some effective teaching techniques to help children learn. They show children how to do things, giving them encouragement and offering clear explanations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave very well. Staff teach them to share and to take turns with toys and resources. They help children to listen to each other and to be mindful of each other's needs. The learning environment is well planned to support children's learning. In particular, close attention has been paid to the organisation of the outdoor area. As a result, children relish the time they spend outdoors and take great advantage of the activities made available to them. Staff use risk assessment effectively to make sure the premises and equipment are safe and suitable for children. For example, a sun shade has been erected in the garden so children can play outdoors more during the summer months without the risk of sunburn. Additional funding is used wisely and has a positive impact on the progress children make.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are actively learning and are consistently making good progress in their development. They play and explore, investigating, for example, how plants grow. Children show good levels of concentration and cooperate very well with each other. For example, they all contribute to drawing on a large piece of paper on the floor. Young children respond well to the encouragement and praise they receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218282
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10084848
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Wildwood Hall Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904729
Date of previous inspection	28 March 2018
Telephone number	07816688415

Wildwood Hall Playgroup registered in 1970 and is located in Wildwood, Stafford. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday, during term time only. Morning sessions are from 8.30am to 11.45am and afternoon sessions are offered from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. There is an additional lunchtime wrap-around session from 11.45am to 12.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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