

Wookey Playgroup

Wookey Primary School, Wells Road, Wookey, Wells, Somerset, BA5 1LQ



Inspection date	20 May 2015
Previous inspection date	12 May 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make excellent progress in relation to their starting points. This is because staff use highly effective teaching methods to successfully promote children's learning and development. Staff's provide exceptional guidance and support. As a result, children are extremely inquisitive and enthusiastic to learn.
- The highly committed staff team make precise and focused assessments of children's learning and use these to provide inspirational and innovative learning experiences.
- The strong focus on helping children to acquire language skills means that children are excellent communicators and exceptionally confident. As a result, they are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning and their move to school.
- Staff give children's safety and well-being the highest priority. Staff have a thorough knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow if they have a concern. They know the children exceptionally well and build strong and nurturing relationships with them. This successfully promotes children's physical and emotional well-being.
- Highly positive links with the school mean that children's move to school is effortless. Staff meet regularly with the reception class teacher who visits the children in the setting. Children have planned visits to attend lessons and become familiar with the school environment. This has an extremely positive impact on children's confidence and learning.
- Leadership and management is inspirational. The continual drive for improvement and an exceptional programme of professional development and support means that staff are consistently improving their teaching skills and practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of every opportunity for children to practise their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and self-evaluation documents.
- The inspector engaged in discussions with the manager, staff, chairperson and children.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff teaching is inspirational and their enthusiasm is infectious. Children thrive in the vibrant environment, where staff listen to them and value their ideas. This enables children to successfully lead their own play, solve problems and behave extremely well. Children's communication and language skills are exceptionally well developed. Staff provide innovative and inspiring activities, which challenge and excite children. For example, during group time, children listened intently and skilfully blended sounds together to form words. Staff reward them with abundant praise, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Children have excellent personal, social and emotional skills. They listen to one another and work well as a group, following and understanding the rules impeccably. Children write for different purposes. For example, they write their name for self-registration. Very occasionally, staff miss opportunities for children to extend their early writing, for example, by labelling their pictures. Staff promote children's understanding of the world with thought-provoking and rich learning experiences. For example, children explore items of interest from different countries, find out about their culture and identify their location on a world map. As a result, children make rapid progress in all areas of learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children settle extremely well because staff are exceptionally warm and caring. Children are independent in their self-care skills; they take part in an extensive range of activities to develop their physical skills and promote healthy lifestyles. They enjoy the responsibility of being the special helper for the day, completing risk assessments and changing the traffic light on the board to indicate tidy-up time. This helps children learn how to identify and manage risks and understand what to do next. Excellent partnerships with parents, professionals and other settings unquestionably contribute to meeting children's needs.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The highly motivated and inspirational manager is dedicated in leading her staff team to providing exceptionally high standards of achievement. Highly successful self-evaluation provides focus for improvement and includes the views from children, staff and parents. Parents are very happy with the provision and the progress that their children make. Staff are extremely motivated to continue their own professional development. They have used the knowledge gained from training about learning outdoors to extend the range and use of resources outside. They use their communication training extremely well with the children, using signs and signing with the children daily.

Setting details

Unique reference number	143011
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	825814
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	Wookey Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2009
Telephone number	07871 163394

Wookey Playgroup registered in 1993. It is in Wookey Village, Somerset. The playgroup is open term time only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am until 12pm. On Tuesday and Thursday it is open from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. There are five members of staff; of these, one holds Qualified Teacher Status and three hold qualifications at Level 3. One is currently training.

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