

East Coker Playgroup

The Pavilion, Long Furlong Lane, East Coker, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 9LQ



Inspection date

23 May 2018

Previous inspection date

27 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children make good progress in their learning from the start. Staff monitor children's development effectively to identify and address any gaps in their learning.
- Staff plan and adapt group activities effectively to meet children's developmental needs. For instance, they use small-group activities to focus on children's next steps for learning. Staff help children to hear and concentrate and provide close support in large-group times to engage younger children well.
- Staff maintain secure play areas and supervise children well to keep them safe. They help children to develop healthy lives. For example, children learn about personal safety and how to follow good personal hygiene routines.
- The manager monitors the quality of teaching effectively and helps staff to develop their knowledge and skills further. For example, staff use ideas from recent training to provide more consistent ways to help children learn to manage positively their feelings and behaviour.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not respond to children's choices and views to support their independent learning fully.
- Staff do not consistently encourage all parents to contribute detailed information about their children's development in all areas to help support their learning further still.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for all children to make their own choices and share their views to support their independent learning further
- encourage parents to share more detailed information about their children's development at home, to support their learning even more accurately.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the playrooms and outdoor play area. The inspector discussed the effectiveness of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation and talked to children at appropriate times.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff and discussed the management's knowledge and understanding of the early years foundation stage.
- The inspector took account of the views of children and parents.

Inspector

Bridget Copson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager follows robust vetting procedures to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. She follows the correct procedures to inform Ofsted of changes to the committee. Staff understand the indicators that a child might be at risk of harm. They are confident about the action they should take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager and staff evaluate the quality of the playgroup's provision successfully to maintain the good-quality care they provide and to improve outcomes for children. For example, staff have created a secure garden with many activities to support children's learning all year round. Children choose when they play outside, where they explore and create with different materials and tools, draw and use physical play equipment. Staff keep parents informed well of their children's progress and provide information on how to prepare their children for starting school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide exciting play areas for children with a very good range of activities in the playrooms and garden. They make good use of spontaneous learning opportunities, such as taking children to look at a crane being used for a house construction close by. While children watch with fascination, staff ask questions to encourage their thinking and language skills. For example, they ask younger children about the shape of the roof structures, what the workmen are wearing and the number of roof structures they see. Staff provide greater challenges for older children, such as creating games to order each other in height sequence and to calculate quantities to support their mathematical development further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The effective key-person system helps children to settle quickly and to feel safe and secure. Staff prepare children well for changes throughout the day, such as using picture timelines to help younger children understand what will happen next. Children develop positive attitudes and behave well. They are keen to find staff and friends to share their experiences with and have good manners. Children enjoy many activities to learn about the world around them throughout the year. For instance, they study the development of tadpoles, go for nature walks and grow flowers and vegetables. Children learn about their own lives and the beliefs of others, such as looking at photographs of one another as babies and exploring different cultural events.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and motivated to learn. They develop the skills they need for their future learning that help prepare them for school. Children learn about letters and the sounds they represent in enjoyable games and enjoy many opportunities to draw. Older children learn to read and write letters correctly to support good literacy skills. They manage tasks confidently for themselves, such as changing their shoes and pouring their own drinks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507986
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1091146
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	East Coker Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902087
Date of previous inspection	27 February 2015
Telephone number	07798812540

East Coker Playgroup registered in 2001. It is located in East Coker, Somerset. The playgroup is open during term time only, from 8am to 4pm. It receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup employs six members of staff. The manager holds early years teacher status and all other staff hold early years qualifications at levels 2 to 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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