

Andover Mencap Playscheme

The Wellington Centre, Winchester Road, ANDOVER, Hampshire, SP10 2EG



Inspection date	29 March 2016
Previous inspection date	8 October 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers support the staff well, such as through regular meetings and training to update their professional knowledge. For example, staff have focused strongly on promoting signing techniques to support children in expressing their needs. This has had a positive impact on children's confidence and self-esteem.
- Managers and staff have good partnerships with parents, carers, schools and other support groups children attend. For example, staff attend regular assessment reviews and child in need meetings which give staff a clear understanding of how best to support children.
- Children settle well into the setting. Parents are complimentary and comment that they feel that their children are safe and secure.
- Children benefit from being able to move freely through the indoor and outdoor environments to make their own choices in activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The setting has begun to evaluate the effectiveness of the provision but has not fully included the views of parents in identifying priorities for future development.
- On occasions, some staff miss opportunities to fully promote children's independence during activities by completing some tasks for them that they are able to do for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop self-evaluation to include the views of parents to help improve practice further
- extend the opportunities for children to complete more tasks for themselves during activities to promote their independence further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions with staff and other children, and viewed the play areas and resources.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including records of staff suitability checks and the setting's policies and procedures.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

June Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers have successfully addressed the areas for development identified at the previous inspection. For example, they have introduced effective procedures to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. They have also improved the arrangements to promote the safety of children and staff in the event of an emergency evacuation from the premises. Safeguarding is effective. Since the previous inspection, the lead practitioner for safeguarding has completed appropriate child protection training. Staff are confident and knowledgeable in child protection issues and they know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Policies and procedures are easily accessible to parents and they are fully informed of who to contact if they have a concern or wish to make a complaint. Managers have robust procedures and training in place to help new staff to become familiar with their roles and understand their responsibilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a stimulating environment with a good range of resources and activities for children to choose what they want to do. Staff know the children well and have a good understanding of their likes, needs and the environment that they prefer to play in. Staff seek ideas from children to help plan for activities and outings using visual feedback forms. Staff help children to explore activities using all their senses. For example, children laughed with delight as they shook their hands and shaving foam and gloop splattered themselves and staff. Staff support children well as they play; for example, they have fun playing card games together. This encourages children's awareness of turn taking and fair play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the setting and have close and secure relationships with the adults. Staff work closely to support individual children, who already know them well from other settings they attend. Children know who will be taking care of them, which helps them to feel emotionally secure. Staff seek a good deal of information from parents when children start in the setting about children's care needs, and their likes and dislikes, so staff can support them fully. Children behave well; staff use positive approaches to help them learn to manage their feelings and behaviours. For example, staff quickly recognise when children need to be in a quieter space away from loud noises. Children develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they benefit from lots of fresh air and exercise through free flow access to the outdoor environment.

Outcomes for children

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435103
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1030170
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	5 - 18
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	Andover And District Mencap
Date of previous inspection	8 October 2015
Telephone number	01264 321 840

Andover Mencap Playscheme registered in 2011. It operates from purpose-built premises at the Wellington Centre, in Andover, Hampshire. The children have use of a variety of rooms in the centre, including a large sensory room and an enclosed outdoor area. The after school club operates term time only from 3pm until 6pm. The playscheme operates on some Saturdays each month and during the school holidays as required. The setting employs 36 staff who work with the children, of whom 18 have relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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