

Ridgeway Playgroup Limited

Bussage Village Hall, The Ridgeway, Bussage, Stroud, GL6 8BB



Inspection date

6 May 2016

Previous inspection date

19 January 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Leaders and staff show a good understanding of how children learn. They provide a stimulating range of activities indoors and outdoors. Children are well motivated and eager learners who make good progress from their initial starting points.
- Leaders and staff consistently support children to manage their own feelings and behaviour. They teach children to understand what is expected of them. Children share, are well mannered, and show care and concern for each other.
- Partnerships with parents are good. They are fully involved in children's learning and know how they may continue to support this at home. Parents report that they value how well leaders and staff know each child, and the care and learning that children receive.
- Leadership is good. Leaders and staff work well together to identify the playgroup's strengths and areas for development. They have fully addressed the recommendation identified at the last inspection to help support children's outcomes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have enough opportunities to build on their mathematical skills and use mathematical language and ideas in their play.
- Occasionally, leaders and staff do not provide all children with the best possible opportunities to play and learn during some group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- take advantage of more opportunities to enhance children's mathematical skills and early awareness of mathematical concepts
- ensure that staff organise group activities to make the most of opportunities for all children to play and learn.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching throughout the playgroup and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including attendance records, staff suitability checks, the self-assessment information, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector held discussions with members of the leadership team, and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julie Swann

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders and staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Furthermore, they teach children how to identify any potential hazards, to help keep themselves safe from harm. Leaders monitor and track the individual progress that children make. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified and timely interventions put in place. Leaders monitor the quality of teaching. For example, they work alongside staff to help ensure that they deliver good-quality learning experiences for children. Leaders and staff are well qualified and keen to further their own professional development. For example, they attend regular training to help update their knowledge and improve children's outcomes. Leaders and staff work well with the staff at local schools and other settings children attend to help support continuity in their care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Leaders and staff use their observations and assessments of children's learning effectively to help identify, and plan for, their individual needs and interests. Leaders and staff support children well to develop their communication and language skills. For example, they ask questions to further challenge children's thinking and carefully model language, such as 'fertilise' and 'compact'. Children have good opportunities to be imaginative in their play. For example, they make 'chocolate-mud birthday cake' for their friends and offer pieces with imaginary cups of tea. Leaders and staff support children's understanding of technology well; for instance, children use interactive equipment. Children enjoy themselves as they develop their creative skills. For example, they delight as they explore paint, experiment to mix colours, and make dough penguins.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Leaders and staff support children's sense of belonging and emotional development well. For example, children form secure and caring relationships with them and with each other. Children are encouraged to be independent, and they confidently try things for themselves, such as setting the table at snack time. Children develop their physical skills well. They learn about the world around them and to respect other cultures. For example, they grow and harvest their own vegetables, enjoy their outings, and taking part in activities in the local environment.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are developing a range of skills which help to prepare them for school. Children are sociable, follow their own interests and make decisions about their play. For example, they eagerly join in with enjoyable activities to help them learn about letters and sounds, and practice their early writing skills when they write their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342824
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	827504
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Ridgeway Playgroup Limited
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2010
Telephone number	07780 258555

Ridgeway Playgroup registered in 2006. It operates from a village hall in Bussage, in the Stroud area of Gloucestershire. There are four members of childcare staff employed. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup is open on Monday from 9.30am until 1.30pm, and on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9.30am until 12.30pm, during school term. The playgroup is funded to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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