

Withycombe Raleigh Playgroup

Parish Church Hall, Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3AE



Inspection date	19 January 2016
Previous inspection date	9 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Staff establish warm, close and attentive relationships with the children which support their emotional well-being. The quality of teaching is good and children progress well in their learning.
- Children receive good support to learn about rules and to behave well. Staff give clear, consistent guidance, praise and encouragement. Children are cooperative and have good levels of self-esteem and confidence.
- Children enjoy a rich and stimulating outdoor environment where they learn about the world around them and safe routines as they explore and experiment.
- Staff liaise well with parents and other settings. They work together to meet children's development and learning needs effectively and consistently.
- All staff attend safeguarding training and know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always give children enough time to think, respond to questions and share their ideas, to extend their thinking and communication skills.
- Occasionally, staff do not use opportunities to encourage children to develop their counting skills and awareness of numbers, to help increase their mathematical understanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to have time to think and share their ideas, to support their thinking skills, language and understanding
- increase opportunities for children to develop further their counting skills and understanding of numbers.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the impact of teaching on children's learning, inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning records and a sample of documentation relating to children's welfare.
- The inspector held meetings with the leadership team and manager at appropriate times, and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and of the provider's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Dawn Biggers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management has a good understanding of the requirements and of its responsibilities to promote children's health and welfare. The management's robust recruitment, appraisal and supervision procedures monitor the staff and committees suitability effectively. For example, in-depth inductions enable everyone to understand their roles and responsibilities. The support from the local authority, additional training and staff changes has had a positive impact and improved the effectiveness of the playgroup. The team's strong commitment and focus of driving improvements through self-evaluation and reflection has improved the way it plans, organises and assesses the children's progress. This has improved the quality of teaching and learning, and the outcomes for children overall.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are knowledgeable about children's individual needs and interests, and use these effectively in planning for their next steps in learning. They complete regular observations and assessments to accurately record the children's good progress. Staff use various teaching skills and activities to challenge all children. For example, during a listening game in a small group activity, younger children matched their counter and made noises for the animals and older children recognised and said the object names. Staff use questions skilfully to help the children to begin to think and solve problems. Children confidently recall the events in the story, and match and name the shapes in the game. Children learn about size and quantities. For example, they recognise when they have different amounts of playdough and share fairly by giving some back willingly.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate good independence and self-esteem as they pour their own drinks and self-serve their own nutritious snacks. Children confidently explore a welcoming and safe environment, establishing friendships as they learn to socialise. They enjoy being physically active and they confidently use various equipment to balance and move. Children learn how to carry equipment safely. They learn about the world around them. For example, staff embrace children's fascination of ice. They talk about how it feels and how it changes as it melts, revealing hidden toys and encouraging children to touch and break the ice using different methods. Staff teach children to identify risks connected to icy weather and how to stay safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well. They demonstrate increasing confidence with their language and social skills as the staff prepare children well for school and their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106069
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1006772
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	Withycombe Raleigh Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2015
Telephone number	07890 784092

Withycombe Raleigh Playgroup opened in 1965 and registered in 1987. It operates from the parish church hall in Withycombe Raleigh, Exmouth. The playgroup is open from 9am to 3pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, from 9am to 1pm on Wednesdays, and from 9am to 12 noon on Thursdays, during term time. A holiday club runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school summer holiday only. There are six members of staff; of these, five hold early years qualifications to levels 3. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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