

# Battisford Playgroup

Community Centre, Straight Road, Battisford, STOWMARKET, Suffolk, IP14 2HP



## Inspection date

8 October 2015

Previous inspection date

5 May 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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

- Management demonstrate a strong commitment to continuous improvement and working towards excellence in all areas. They have high expectations for the provision and the quality of care and learning for all children.
- Staff's knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements is good. They plan and deliver an interesting and varied range of activities, both indoors and outside, to support all areas of learning.
- Children's physical and emotional well-being is supported well. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding issues. They are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to report concerns.
- The key-person system is implemented well. Each child has a named person to take responsibility for their daily well-being and plan for their learning and development. The key persons build friendly and trusting relationships with children and parents.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Staff are committed to working together with parents and encourage them to remain actively involved in their children's learning, both in the playgroup and at home.
- All children make good progress from their starting points and they are well-prepared for future learning. Management and staff monitor children's progress well.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Links with other settings that children attend are not established in a timely way, to ensure that information is quickly shared and any necessary interventions are promptly actioned.
- Staff do not have frequent opportunities to learn from the outstanding practice of their colleagues to improve staff practice, teaching and learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more closely on the timeliness of developing links with others who provide care and learning for the children
- increase the opportunities available for staff to learn from their colleagues where they demonstrate outstanding teaching skills.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager and provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation form and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The playgroup manager has a good understanding of the statutory requirements. She is supported by a newly formed committee that is working well to ensure that they understand and meet their legal duties. Self-evaluation is used well to identify the setting's strengths and areas for development. Recruitment is effective in ensuring that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager carries out regular staff meetings and supervision to support performance management. She recognises that some staff practice is outstanding. She has not yet implemented ways to use this valuable resource more effectively to improve the practice of all staff. Staff are committed to their own professional development and readily address their training needs. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend regular training in child protection.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They talk confidently about where children are in their learning and development and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. Staff make links with others who provide care and learning for children. These links are not always set up at the start of a child's placement to swiftly promote the effective two-way flow of information. Staff plan a varied range of activities. Planning is flexible to allow for children's changing interests. Staff respond to their changing interests and support children's learning well. When children play in the mud kitchen outdoors, staff talk to them about where water comes from. Staff also make the most of opportunities to introduce mathematical language as children spoon the soil and sand into pots. Children's communication skills are supported well.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's move from home to the playgroup is managed well. Parents appreciate the 'stay and play' session that runs alongside the playgroup on Friday mornings. They value this as a good way for their children to get to know the staff, the environment and other children before they start at playgroup. Parents also highly value the good level of support given to them as a family unit and describe staff as friendly, approachable and knowledgeable. Children feel safe and are happy and settled in this warm and welcoming playgroup. They develop the confidence to embrace new experiences as part of developing the skills needed to be ready for school. Children learn to respect each other's similarities and differences and develop positive attitudes towards others. Unwanted behaviour is managed sensitively and good behaviour is valued and praised. Children's health and physical needs are met well.

### Outcomes for children are good

The learning and development requirements are monitored to make sure that children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. A new system of monitoring has been put in place. Early indications show that this is effective in identifying gaps in children's learning, and to show that gaps in learning and development are closing. Additional funding, including the early years pupil premium, is used effectively to narrow gaps in children's achievements.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	508609
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	869363
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	23
<b>Name of provider</b>	Battisford Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 May 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	01449 612289

Battisford Playgroup was registered more than 40 years ago. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 5. One member of staff also has an early years honours degree at level 6. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday are from 9.30am until 3pm. Sessions on Tuesday and Friday are from 9.30am to 12.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

