

Inspection of West End Play Group

West End Playgroup, Village Hall, West End Lane, ESHER, Surrey KT10 8LF

Inspection date: 11 March 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish and have a thirst for learning. They thrive on the superb support given for their emotional development. This gives children a strong foundation for all their future learning. Children are excited to attend and quickly settle into activities of their choice. They clearly demonstrate very close bonds with their key person and great friendships with their peers. Children have lots of fun throughout the day, for example role play in the dinosaur world, giving their friends rides on bicycles and moulding play dough together. Children solve problems and work exceptionally well as a team to answer questions such as 'I wonder why?' and 'How does that happen?'. Children demonstrate that they feel extremely safe and cared for by fully engaging with all activities, adults and their peers. Huge smiles, squeals of glee and shouts of wonder can be seen and heard throughout the day.

Staff have high expectations for all children. They know all children extremely well and design exciting and engaging activities to captivate their interest. Staff skilfully include every child in activities by enticing them in with thought-provoking stories. For example, children search for real birds to explore the natural world. They find bird books to investigate which birds visit their pond. Staff encourage children's natural inquisitive nature and use questioning extremely well to extend and deepen their understanding and language.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Children's speech and language skills are superbly supported by every member of staff. Staff speak extremely clearly, ask children precise and well-considered questions and give them ample time to consider a response. Staff consistently extend children's language, using words such as 'juicy', 'crunchy', 'sweetness' and 'flesh' when discussing their lunch. Children's use of vocabulary is extensive and encouraged at every opportunity. For example, children use words such as 'prehistoric' and 'extinct', as they look for favourite books.
- The passionate, ambitious and dedicated staff team has a strong and clear vision for the pre-school. Staff provide an extensive curriculum designed to ignite the curiosity and wonder of all children. For example, children excitedly mix lard and bird seed, shouting 'Look! What's happening?'. Children are inspired to learn and make exceptional progress in their development.
- Children share stories while smiling and clapping in excitement together. They hug each other, hold hands and invite each other into their games. As a result, children have high levels of self-esteem and fully immerse themselves in play, to achieve their full learning potential.
- Staff provide excellent opportunities for children to learn about the world around them. Children regularly go for walks in the local area, purchase their own snack

items from the local shop and learn about road safety. Parents come in to speak with the children about different occupations, including farming, classic car restoring and paramedics.

- The manager and staff recognise the impact the pandemic has had on children's emotions and have successfully developed ways to support them. Staff consider the language of feelings throughout the day, for example by making different facial emotions, drawing them and discussing what makes them happy. Small-group sessions help children explore feelings and build their confidence, resilience and social skills. Children demonstrate exemplary behaviour and show great respect and care for each other.
- The manager provides highly effective professional development for all staff. She utilises their skills and knowledge in the best way to support all children. Staff feel valued and part of a team. Every child receives the best possible care for them to thrive.
- Highly effective partnerships with parents and professionals allow for great consistency in each child's learning and development. Parents are extremely happy with the care provided for their children. They comment that 'the staff here genuinely care so much about each of the children' and 'they strive to make a difference'.
- Children have wonderful opportunities to learn about the diverse world they live in. The staff help children to learn about festivals and events that are important to them and their friends. For instance, staff learn key words in children's home language as they play games and sing songs together. Children gain an excellent understanding of the differences and similarities in people's ideas and beliefs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff receive a rigorous safeguarding training programme. They have detailed knowledge of the signs and symptoms which indicate a child is at risk of harm, including the risk of radicalisation and female genital mutilation. Staff are proactive in taking action to keep children from harm. The manager ensures that policies, records and documents that help to safeguard children are regularly updated and are exceptionally thorough. These comprehensive procedures enable staff to know how to identify and report concerns swiftly, to keep children safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122442
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10128671
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	West End Playgroup
Registered person unique reference number	RP519681
Telephone number	07395 901584
Date of previous inspection	13 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

West End Play Group registered in 1975 and is situated in West End, a village near Esher, in Surrey. The setting operates five days a week from 8am to 4.30pm, during term time only. The playgroup receives funding for early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup employs seven staff. Of these, three hold appropriate level 6 qualifications and three hold relevant level 3 qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Bev Boyd

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider
- The manager led the inspector on a learning walk to establish the priorities for the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Discussions took place with staff and children at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector invited parents to share their views. The inspector took account of all feedback received.

We carried out this inspection 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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