

# Mildene Playgroup

69a Barbrook Lane, Tiptree, COLCHESTER CO5 0JH



<b>Inspection date</b>	9 January 2019
Previous inspection date	9 June 2015

<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 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

- Children's emotional well-being is very well supported. Staff form strong relationships with the children. They know them well and take account of their individual needs. This means children settle quickly into the playgroup and feel happy, confident and secure.
- Staff develop positive and effective working relationships with parents from the beginning. Staff provide friendly support to all parents. They share children's progress and achievements regularly and share ideas to help extend their learning at home. Consequently, children's continuity of care is very well supported.
- Teaching is good. Staff provide a broad range of interesting and stimulating activities, and children are motivated and enthusiastic to join in. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are making good progress from their starting points.
- Staff support children's early language and communication skills well. They use a wide range of strategies to build on children's vocabulary and understanding. Children have lots of opportunities to engage in conversation with staff and they are very keen to share their thoughts and ideas.
- Self-evaluation is not sharply focused on targeting priorities for improvement that help to raise the quality of the playgroup to an outstanding level.
- On occasions, staff do not have high expectations of what the most able children can achieve in order to promote learning to the highest levels.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- raise expectations of what the most able children can achieve to even higher levels to further promote their learning and rapid progress
- strengthen the process for self-evaluation to plan more precisely for further improvements that will help to raise the quality of practice to an outstanding level.

### 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 completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documents and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through verbal discussion and reading the written feedback provided.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children throughout the inspection.

### Inspector

Jemma Hudson

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of the playgroup's safeguarding procedures. They know how to act promptly should they have a concern about the welfare of a child. Staff are supported well. They meet frequently with the manager, which provides opportunities for them to discuss their practice and identify relevant training. The environment is safe and suitable. Staff deployment is effective. Staff continuously check the safety of the environment and closely supervise children at all times. This helps to keep children safe. Feedback from parents is extremely positive.

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

Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They provide a stimulating environment and give children plenty of choice in their play. Children confidently select what they would like to do next. Staff get down to the children's level and join in their play experiences. They talk to children and ask questions. This is one of the many ways that they support children's communication skills. Children's physical development is well supported. For example, staff model how to use scissors to cut out shapes during a group activity and children learn how to balance on the obstacle course in the outside area. Children have many opportunities to develop their creativity and imagination. They engage enthusiastically in the vet role-play area and enjoy deciding which treatment each animal needs.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the playgroup. They thrive in the nurturing and welcoming environment. Children develop strong relationships with staff and other children. Staff take time to get to know children and their families. Their calm approach ensures that children feel highly valued. Behaviour throughout the playgroup is good. Children's self-help skills are developing well. Children confidently put on their coats, wash their hands and pour themselves a drink. Staff promote the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They talk to children about different types of food during snack time and encourage physical activity in the large, well-resourced outdoor space.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress towards the early learning goals. They enjoy good relationships with their peers and make friends easily. Children show a strong sense of belonging and are eager to have a go and take part in activities. They listen to others and are confident to contribute towards discussions and share their views and experiences. Children enjoy participating in the range of enjoyable activities to promote their early literacy and mathematical skills. They are active and independent learners and are developing the skills and attitudes they need for their future learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY224523
<b>Local authority</b>	Essex
<b>Inspection number</b>	10059868
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	49
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Tiptree Pre School Playgroup Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP903024
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	9 June 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01621 816402

Milldene Playgroup registered in 2002. The playgroup employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5 and seven hold qualifications at level 3. One member of staff hold early years teacher status. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during school term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm on Monday and Friday and from 9.15am until 2.15pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

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