

Inspection Summary Report - February 2025

-  The pre-school's development and improvement work is wholly child-centred and is guided well by the ongoing feedback from parents, staff and external agencies.
-  Short-term planning, observation and assessment is informed well by the interests and needs of the children.
-  Almost all of the children are independent, confident and resilient learners who approach their learning with enthusiasm, curiosity and excitement.
-  The World Around Us curriculum is a key strength of the provision; the children have access to a wide range of stimulating and exciting opportunities which enable them to observe, explore, experiment, discuss and problem solve.
-  The commitment to inclusion within the playgroup is strongly reflected in the compassionate and child centred response to individual needs and circumstances.
-  The staff have engaged well with a range of external educational and health support services developing their skills and knowledge through an extensive programme of professional learning which enables them to understand and address the holistic needs of the children.
-  The children are developing firm friendships. Almost all of the children warmly greet one another and settle quickly into purposeful and productive play.
-  Success stems from the high expectations set for the children by the experienced and well-supported staff team who are valued by the community.
-  The staff foster strong connections with the local community, including the parents, the local primary school, and other pre-school providers to enhance the children's learning experiences and support their transition to primary education.
-  At the time of the inspection, the evidence provided by the playgroup demonstrates that the arrangements for child protection align to the current statutory guidance.

Going forward

-  The children in Paddington Playgroup are valued for their individual character and unique gifts and talents. The staff are committed to ensuring that each child can achieve and progress in an environment that supports their holistic development; sense of fun in learning; and emotional and physical well-being.
-  The ETI will continue to work with Paddington Playgroup, including to share examples of highly effective practice from which others may learn. The aspect of practice which should be shared more widely is:
 - the highly effective learning experiences across the World Around Us curriculum, including the use of the local community, to develop a range of skills and concepts and stimulate interest in learning.
-  Paddington Playgroup is well placed to take forward the areas for action they have identified through their own development planning processes.