Panda Cross Community Playgroup

Inspection Summary Report - February 2025

- Panda Cross Community Playgroup has a clear and shared vision, "to provide the highest quality care and education for all children in partnership with parents/carers, enabling each child to develop to their full potential through a child-centred play-based preschool curriculum". The vision is realised through the playgroup's warm, caring, inclusive and nurturing atmosphere where all of the children are placed at the centre of the learning process.
- The management committee, leader and all of the staff have a clear understanding of the purpose of self-evaluation for improvement. Through their engagement in robust self-evaluation processes which take account of the voice of the child, they have identified key priorities for development such as music, sensory and outdoor play experiences. They have also created strategic action plans which they monitor regularly to review progress.
- The provision of a broad and balanced preschool curriculum for all of the children is evident in the curriculum planning. The planning and observation cycle is undertaken collegially by the staff and is developing well their evaluations on how effectively they plan for challenge and progression for each child.
- The children engage in collaborative play with sustained levels of concentration. Their confidence and resilience to persevere with tasks, problem solve and deal with mistakes is supporting well their personal, social and emotional development, modelled by the staff's consistent and skilful interactions with them.
- The children's language is developing well. They demonstrate very good attention and listening skills at story time and they have a clear love for stories and books. They share independently relevant books, magazines, and thematic scrapbooks with adults and their peers which is extending their learning and interests.

- The early identification of children who have additional needs is met through effective staff observation and assessment of the children's response to all of the playgroup activities. The staff also consult regularly with parents/carers and outside agencies.
- The playgroup's strong working relationships at all levels and proactive efforts to involve the whole school community in the life of the playgroup has resulted in a rich, child-centred and inclusive community of learning. The members of the management committee, which includes a very large number of active parents, use and share their expertise very well with the playgroup. This is impacting positively on the playgroup's provision and the children's learning.
- At the time of the inspection, the evidence provided by the school demonstrates that the arrangements for child protection align to the current statutory guidance.

Area for action:

to review the planning processes for the children who require individual education plans. Specific targets are necessary to monitor sufficiently the children's progress and to better inform individual planning.





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Going forward

- Panda Cross Community Playgroup proactive management committee, staff and parents are highly committed to the playgroup's vision, "to provide the highest quality care and education for all children in partnership with parents/carers, enabling each child to develop to their full potential through a child-centred play-based preschool curriculum". They work very well together to create a warm, caring, inclusive and nurturing atmosphere where all of the children are placed at the centre of the learning process.
- ETI will continue to work with Panda Cross Community Playgroup, including to share an example of highly effective practice from which others may learn. The aspect of practice which should be shared more widely is:
 - the stimulating learning environment with clearly defined play spaces and a range of accessible and authentic resources which is enabling the children's progress in their learning and development across all areas of the preschool curriculum.
- Panda Cross Community Playgroup is well placed to take forward the area for action.



