

Rainbow Pre-School (Kettering)

Millbrook Centre, Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5BZ



Inspection date

19 January 2015

Previous inspection date

22 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Ofsted has not been notified of changes to the committee and the provider has not accurately recorded information about the staff identity checks and vetting processes that have been completed. This compromises the effective management of the pre-school.
- Staff working with the younger children do not use information from their observations to shape the children's further learning experiences, and the quality of teaching is variable. As a result, children are not sufficiently challenged.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are not always given sufficient opportunities to develop and extend their use of the English language during everyday routines and activities.
- Staff do not always make the best use of resources. Consequently, children are not always provided with good quality learning experiences, to keep them motivated and engaged.
- The supervision of the staff is not sufficiently robust. This restricts opportunities to improve the staff's personal effectiveness and results in inconsistencies in the quality of teaching.

It has the following strengths

- Children in the pre-school age group enjoy a range of appropriate activities which support their overall development in preparation for school.
- Children enjoy being physically active in the fresh air and are provided with healthy snacks. They are developing their independence skills as they pour their own drinks and clear away their plates.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure that Ofsted is notified of changes to members of the committee, in order to enable the required Disclosure and Barring Service checks to be carried out
- ensure that an accurate record of information is maintained about the identity checks and vetting processes that have been completed on staff and all members of the committee
- ensure children who speak English as an additional language have sufficient opportunities to learn and reach a good standard in English during everyday routines and activities
- make effective use of resources, indoors and outdoors, in order to ensure children are provided with good quality learning experiences, to keep them motivated and engaged
- ensure supervision of the staff is fully effective, in order to provide consistent coaching to support their continual personal effectiveness
- ensure ongoing assessment is consistently used to inform the planning of challenging activities that are fully matched to the children's learning needs, and therefore helps them to make the best possible progress
- improve the quality of teaching methods used by the staff, such as questioning and modelling techniques, so that children receive consistently good support during activities to help them make good progress.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- ensure Ofsted is informed of changes of circumstances as soon as they occur and no later than 14 working days after the changes occur (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any member of the governing body, such as committee members (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure Ofsted is informed of changes of circumstances as soon as they occur and no later than 14 working days after the changes occur (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a tour of the premises during the inspection.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager of the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke with children and the staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with children and discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Ann Austen

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is inadequate

The quality of teaching is variable and not always sufficiently focused to fully challenge all children to make good progress. Staff make assessments of the children and track their achievements. However, staff working with the younger children do not always ensure planned activities and experiences match their identified needs. Additionally, staff ask the children questions but do not always allow them sufficient time to think and respond. Staff do not always effectively support children who speak English as an additional language to copy and repeat single words and phrases in English as they play or during everyday routines. Older children are gaining the basic skills to be prepared for school. They play cooperatively with their friends and enjoy activities based on their interests, such as pirates. Staff encourage the children to count and support them to record their items of treasure. They skilfully introduce language associated with their play, such as 'splash' and 'splosh', and encourage the children to sing songs.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate

The welfare of the children is not assured and parents are given a false sense of security. The management and accountability arrangements are not secure with regard to assessing the suitability of those responsible for the operation of the pre-school. The environment is safe and generally clean. However, staff do not always make best use of the resources, both inside and outdoors, to provide good quality learning experiences for all children. For example, on the day of the inspection, staff working with the younger children provided the same activity across three areas of the pre-school room. As a result, the children's behaviour deteriorates because the activities lack appeal and challenge. Staff respect the children's individual personalities and treat them with kindness. This supports their well-being as, for example, children naturally seek reassurance if they are upset. Staff manage the children's behaviour appropriately and praise them for their efforts and achievements, which promotes their self-esteem. They understand the importance of preparing older children emotionally as they move on to school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate

The provider has failed to meet the legal requirements of both the Early Years Register and the Childcare Register. Ofsted has not been notified of changes to the committee and Disclosure and Barring Service checks have not been obtained for new committee members. Furthermore, the provider has not maintained accurate records of the identity checks and vetting processes undertaken on staff. Staff are appropriately qualified. However, arrangements for the supervision of staff are irregular. Consequently, opportunities for the staff to receive coaching to enable them to improve their practice are restricted. This is reflected in the weaknesses in practice with regard to the overall poor quality of teaching. The management team is currently reviewing self-evaluation procedures. Staff maintain a safe environment and understand their role and duty to protect children from harm. Parents are welcomed into the setting and are involved in

identifying children's starting points. Staff have also established links with other professionals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220018
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	876325
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	Rainbow Pre School (Kettering) Committee
Date of previous inspection	22 November 2010
Telephone number	07952 384211

Rainbow Pre-School (Kettering) was registered in 1974. It operates from a mobile building on the site of the Millbrook Centre, in the Ise Lodge area of Kettering. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am to 11.30am and 12.15pm to 3.15pm. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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.

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