

The Village Pre-School

Little Eaton Village Hall, Vicarage Lane, Little Eaton, DERBY, DE21 5EA



Inspection date

19 January 2015

Previous inspection date

5 July 2011

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Requires improvement | 3 |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children | | Good | 2 |
| The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings | | | |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Children's learning is not always maximised during group times or during their free play opportunities. This is because there are inconsistencies in the quality of teaching. Some staff do not always ask questions to inspire children to think, or interact with them to expand their learning.
- Assessment procedures are not sufficiently robust. Consequently, staff do not identify gaps in children's learning quickly enough to enable them to make good progress, or consistently provide challenging activities to promote their individual learning.
- The manager does not effectively monitor the children's achievements or staff's teaching sharply enough, to ensure all children are making good progress.

It has the following strengths

- Children's safety is effectively promoted through the implementation of good safeguarding procedures, which help keep the children safe at all times. Staff know what to do if they have concern about a child in their care or if an allegation is made against a member of staff.
- Staff create an environment that is welcoming. Staff know the children well. Staff are friendly, approachable and well deployed to support children's welfare. The effective key-person system helps children form strong bonds and helps ease the move from home to pre-school.
- Children are developing good self-help skills and independence. They put their own coats on to go outside, pour their own drinks at snack time and use the bathroom independently.
- Staff establish a strong two-way partnership with parents. As a result, children's individual care is continually catered for and their needs appropriately met.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- raise the quality of teaching by ensuring all staff interact effectively and use every opportunity to challenge children's thinking and learning, with particular regard to supporting the younger children during group times and free play opportunities
- improve the assessment procedures, ensuring that children's progress is tracked on a regular basis, so that staff are always able to provide challenging and interesting activities to enhance children's individual learning, so they make good progress.

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

- develop a more effective process for monitoring the children's progress and for overseeing staff performance, so staff practice is consistent in helping children make good progress and any gaps in children's development are promptly addressed.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and staff and held a discussion with the manager.
- The inspector observed children engaged in activities both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector invited the manager to complete a joint observation.
- The inspector sampled documentation and records, including children's learning journals, planning documentation and staff files.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and their action plan.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Staff have an appropriate understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and promote the seven areas of learning through suitable activities. Children freely access the activities and toys available, which enhances their independent skills. All children listen and concentrate as staff read stories. As a result, children are acquiring some skills for their future learning. Nevertheless, the setting requires improvement because the quality of teaching is inconsistent throughout the pre-school. Children's learning is not regularly assessed by all staff and this means that activities are not always linked to their individual learning needs. Two-year-old children are sometimes left to play alone with little contact from staff or other children during free play, and are not fully supported to make the most of group activities. Consequently, not all children are yet making good progress from their starting points. Despite this, most children enjoy themselves at the pre-school. Parents spoken to during the inspection are happy with their children's progress.

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

Children feel safe and secure because staff form good attachments, which helps meet children's emotional needs well. Children are well behaved and move around the room and outside with confidence. Staff praise children's efforts and achievements, which boosts their self-esteem. Children enjoy healthy snacks and take part in daily exercise to promote their healthy lifestyles. Staff teach the children to stay safe through the routine of the pre-school. Staff provide good settling-in sessions, which helps them to build positive relationships with parents and find out about children's preferences and dislikes. This in turn helps children settle quickly into pre-school life. Children are emotionally well prepared for their move to school. The manager has made good links with the local schools to enable children to make a smooth transition when the time comes.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The manager and staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Good recruitment arrangements ensure staff are suitable to care for children. Children are kept safe as the manager carries out comprehensive risk assessments to ensure the premises are free from any hazards. The manager completes supervision sessions and appraisals with the staff to enhance their performance. In addition she identifies staff's training needs. However, these arrangements are not fully effective as the process is not sharply focused on ensuring all teaching practice is good. Monitoring of children's progress is also not sufficiently robust to identify where practice is not good enough to help children make the best progress. The manager has made some recent improvements to the pre-school. She has made appropriate use of self-evaluation to identify areas of strengths and some areas for improvement. The manager is aware of the importance of working closely with outside agencies, to support children who have additional needs.

Setting details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Unique reference number | 206836 |
| Local authority | Derbyshire |
| Inspection number | 865441 |
| Type of provision | |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 0 - 17 |
| Total number of places | 24 |
| Number of children on roll | 19 |
| Name of provider | The Village Pre-School, Little Eaton Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 5 July 2011 |
| Telephone number | 0789 002 8346 |

The Village Pre-School registered in 1994. It is run by a committee. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 9.15am until 3.15pm term time only. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. There are three staff employed at the pre-school, of these two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one is unqualified.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

