

The Rainbow Childrens Centre



Stow Heath Infant School, Vaughan Road, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV13 3UD

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

23 January 2015

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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		Requires improvement	3
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:

- Staff do not consistently use information about what children know and can do when they plan the learning environment and adult-led activities. Consequently, children are not always challenged to make the best progress in their learning.
- Management do not monitor the learning environment and adult-led activities enough to make sure they provide sufficient challenges for children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Well-targeted support is provided for children who are not developing as quickly as they should in their communication and language skills.
- Children develop strong attachments with staff. This enables children to feel emotionally secure, to settle well and enjoy their time in the setting.
- Children are learning to behave well. They are learning to cooperate, share and take turns as they play.
- Staff work as part of a multi-agency team, working together with parents and other professional agencies. This ensures families receive early intervention and support if needed.
- Parents are provided with good-quality information about how they can support children's learning at home.
- Management and staff demonstrate a strong drive to improve the quality of their practice and the service provided.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the quality of teaching by consistently using information about what children know and can do to plan the learning environment and adult-led activities so that children are always supported to make the best progress they can

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

- improve the monitoring of the learning environment and adult-led activities to provide a sharper focus on the quality of teaching and the available learning experiences, to fully promote children's progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the centre manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the centre manager and head teacher of the school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Christine Armstrong

Inspection findings

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

Staff do not always take into account what children already know and can do when they plan the learning environment and adult-led activities. Consequently, some children are occupied in adult-led activities that are repetitive to them and have too little value in extending their learning. The learning environment also needs further attention. For example, some children have few opportunities to use and extend their understanding of number because there are not enough numbers in a purposeful context in the environment. Staff seek to provide a broad range of activities to promote children's learning based on children's interests. Pre-school children's interest in the natural world is supported as they enjoy first-hand experiences of seeing and handling a range of creatures as part of an animal project. Staff working with children aged two to three years use a fun and enthusiastic approach to engage and sustain children's interest. They support children's confidence by joining in their play, and encouraging children to act out their ideas and experiences, such as having a picnic and going to the beach. All staff focus well on supporting children's language and communication skills, which helps to prepare children for school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

All staff have a kind and nurturing approach to children. Staff working with children under two years provide consistent reassurance to children. They are able to recognise and respond appropriately to very young children's cues, such as tiredness and frustration. This supports children's emotional well-being. Staff support children's good health by offering good-quality advice to parents in areas, such as, healthy eating, breast feeding, weaning and use of dummies. Children learn about healthy eating as they take part in cooking healthy foods, such as soup. Children learn about safety and good hygiene, and develop good self-care skills through daily routines. Children benefit from daily opportunities to become active and play outdoors. Children's move to school is supported through the close relationship the centre has with the school.

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

Management has a good understanding of their responsibility to protect and safeguard children, and to support their learning. Children's progress is monitored, with high focus given to tracking children's speech and language development. Monitoring of adult-led activities and the learning environment is not robust enough. Consequently, children are not always challenged to make the best progress they can. There is a strong commitment to the professional development of staff, however, which indicates a capacity to improve. Self-evaluation takes into account the views of staff, children and parents. It results in suitable action plans for improvement, such as monitoring groups of children so that any gaps in learning can be identified and supported. Safeguarding procedures are clear and understood by staff. There are thorough systems to check that staff are suitable to work with children. All necessary steps are taken to ensure the environment is safe and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337221
Local authority	Wolverhampton
Inspection number	999232
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	76
Name of provider	The Governing Body Of Stow Heath Infant School
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01902 550732

The Rainbow Childrens Centre first registered in 2006. It operate from a purpose-built unit within the grounds of Stow Heath Primary School. The centre is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm all year round, excluding public holidays. The centre receives funding for free early years education for children aged two years. The centre employs 11 staff. Nine staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3 and one staff to level 4 and one staff to level 2.

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