

Parchmore Pre-School

Parchmore Methodist Church, 53-55 Parchmore Road, THORNTON HEATH, Surrey,
CR7 8LY



Inspection date

2 February 2015

Previous inspection date

14 September 2009

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		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 engage with children during child-initiated activities to effectively enhance and extend their learning and development.
- Staff do not use effective questioning techniques to challenge children's thinking and develop their communication and language skills.
- The provider does not monitor the educational programmes or the quality of teaching to ensure staff provide children with interesting, challenging activities that consistently motivate and engage them.
- The provider does not routinely seek the views of the parents and children when evaluating the setting's strengths and weaknesses.

It has the following strengths

- Staff support children to play together; as a result, children behave well.
- Children have plenty of space to play and explore both indoors and outdoors.
- Children enjoy trips in their local community to support their learning.
- Staff engage well with parents about their child's progress, regularly providing activities for children to support their learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that activities and experiences offered to children provide interesting and suitable challenge, taking into account their individual age and stage of development
- improve staff's knowledge of how children learn, and robustly monitor their practices to support children's learning and development and raise the quality of teaching
- ensure staff consistently encourage children's' communication and language development through using questioning techniques.

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

- further refine the existing self-evaluation process to include the views of parents and all staff.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a selection of policies and children's progress files.
- The inspector and the manager completed a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke with parents available on the day.
- The inspector observed a range of activities both indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Tracey Murphy

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a suitable range of activities to promote children's learning and development. Children have free access to a range of toys and resources that help them develop independence. However, staff do not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's learning. For example, children enjoy rhyming activities as a group to develop their early reading skills. However, staff do not encourage children to practise this skill further at story time. Staff regularly observe and assess children. However, they do not use this information to plan appropriate activities and experiences. Consequently, some activities lack challenge and are mundane. In addition, staff do not consistently support children's communication and language development through discussions and questions. This means that children are not able to talk through their ideas and learn new vocabulary as they play. Staff work with parents and regularly share information about what children have done during the day to help parents to further promote children's learning at home.

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

The key-person system helps children to form secure attachments with staff. Staff encourage children to pour their own drinks at snack time, which helps children to develop independence skills. Staff remind children of hygiene practices to prevent infection. Staff praise children to build their self-esteem, for example when balancing along beams during physical activities. Children play well because staff use consistent behaviour management strategies. Children are aware of their own safety within the setting and are managing their own personal needs.

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

Staff have a secure knowledge of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children. The manager has suitable risk assessments and regularly practises the fire evacuation procedure. However, the manager's monitoring of the quality of teaching and planning is not robust enough. This means that weaknesses in the educational programmes and the quality of teaching have not been identified. For example, checks on daily practice do not highlight weaknesses in staff deployment during child-initiated activities. Systems for self-evaluation are developing. However, these do not currently seek the views of staff and parents. There is a robust system to ensure staff are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388618
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	830142
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	48
Name of provider	Parchmore Road Methodist Church
Date of previous inspection	14 September 2009
Telephone number	02086 537353

Parchmore Pre School is run by the Trustees of Parchmore Methodist Church. It first opened in 1968 and was re-registered in 2009. It operates from a hall and two rooms in Parchmore Methodist Church Youth and Community Centre. It is situated in Thornton Heath, Surrey. The pre-school opens each weekday from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Fridays, term time only. It supports children who learn English as an additional language. The pre-school employs 10 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 3. It is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.

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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