

# The Drive Playgroup

Methodist Church Hall, The Drive, ILFORD, Essex, IG1 3PP



## Inspection date

9 February 2015

Previous inspection date

19 May 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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 <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The provider has not maintained relevant information records relating to the management structure by ensuring they are available for inspection, in particular details and suitability checks for committee members.
- The provider has not informed Ofsted of changes to individuals on the management team, such as committee members. This is a breach of the associated requirements of the Childcare Register.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff ensure activities are interesting and challenging to meet children's individual needs. As a result, staff plan a suitable range of indoor and outside learning experiences.
- Staff implement an effective key-person system. Therefore, children form secure emotional attachments and settle in quickly.
- Staff support children's language and communication skills well. This means that all children, including those who are learning to speak English as an additional language, are gaining confidence in communicating with others.
- Staff welcome parents into this friendly playgroup. Parents comment that they are happy with the progress their children are making and the frequent communication they receive from staff about their children's learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure records are maintained and available for inspection, in particular those relating to the suitability checks for and changes to the management structure, including committee members

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

- ensure Ofsted is kept informed of any changes to the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any partner, director, senior officer or other member of the governing body (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

### Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the children's development records, as well as the suitability records and qualifications for staff and management.

### Inspector

Bushra Khan

## Inspection findings

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

Teaching and learning are generally good because staff have high expectations and understand how children learn. Staff plan meaningful activities to ensure that children have access to a variety of resources that cover all areas of learning. For example, these include a range of construction, art and crafts and mark-making activities. Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for children and support them well in small groups. Children make good progress in their communication and language, and personal, social and emotional development. For example, staff encourage children to take turns, share with others and respect each other's feelings. Consequently, children are acquiring the necessary skills for the next stage in their learning. Staff complete ongoing assessments of children to help identify their next steps, which they also share with parents.

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

Children generally settle in well due to the welcoming nature of all staff and the clearly established routines. Staff promote children's positive behaviour by offering suitable reward and praise. They further encourage children to be independent during mealtimes, for example, by washing up after their snack and serving themselves from a range of healthy foods available. Staff give children options to play outside and they benefit from taking part in physical activities, such as balancing and team games. Overall, staff adequately promote children's physical development. However, due to weakness in maintaining suitability records, children's well-being and safety cannot always be assured. Staff make appropriate arrangements to help prepare children for their move to school.

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

The manager implements suitable monitoring systems to drive forward improvements in teaching and learning practices. However, she does not ensure all required documentation is available for inspection, in particular details of and suitability checks for committee members. Furthermore, she has not informed Ofsted of changes to individuals on the management structure. Despite this, the manager ensures children are not left unsupervised and all staff have undergone thorough suitability checks as part of the recruitment process to promote children's safety. The management and staff demonstrate a suitable knowledge of the safeguarding procedures and all staff have undertaken relevant safeguarding training. Therefore, they are fully aware of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child in their care. The manager offers staff supervision and supports them by identifying future training courses, such as behaviour management to further improve outcomes for children. Staff have established successful working relationships with parents and external agencies, such as the local children's centre.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	128487
<b>Local authority</b>	Redbridge
<b>Inspection number</b>	846321
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	45
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	73
<b>Name of provider</b>	The Drive Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	19 May 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	07963804414

The Drive Playgroup registered in 1974 and is situated in the London Borough of Redbridge. The pre-school is open daily during term time only, offering morning sessions between 9am and 12 noon, and afternoon sessions between 1pm and 4pm. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider is registered on the Early Years Register, and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The provider employs 11 members of staff. All the staff, including the manager, are appropriately qualified in childcare at levels 2, 3 and 4.

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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