

The Willows Nursery School

Recreation Ground, London Road, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7AN



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

27 January 2015

14 February 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		Good	2
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:

- The leadership and management has not completed suitability checks to ensure that all staff working with children are suitable to do so. Therefore, children's safety and well-being cannot be assured.
- Children are not sufficiently supported by staff to learn how to keep themselves healthy and why it is important to regularly drink to remain hydrated.

It has the following strengths

- Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents and other settings to provide children with continuity in their learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement robust systems to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children, including gaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check for all new members of staff.

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

- ensure that children learn how to keep themselves healthy, by increasing their awareness of the daily routines and why it is important to drink regularly throughout the session.

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

- implement effective systems to ensure that any person caring for children is suitable to work with children, which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- implement effective systems to ensure that any person caring for children is suitable to work with children, which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and members of staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities in the nursery and also in the outside play space.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Tara Naylor

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their good knowledge of how children learn to provide them with activities that support their learning and development. Staff monitor children's learning to ensure that any areas where additional support may be needed are identified. Children make good progress in their communication and language as staff teach them the sounds of letters, encouraging children to think about 'whose name starts with that sound'. Staff observe, assess and plan for children's learning well. They ensure that any potential needs are recognised and met quickly. Children enjoy taking part in art and craft activities; staff skilfully use these opportunities to extend children's learning. For example, when children build 'ice creams', staff provide cut out shapes that encourage children to explore the similarities and differences between them. Therefore, children ask questions and learn to develop problem-solving skills to arrive at their own solutions. This develops children's skills for their future learning, so that they are well prepared for moving on to school.

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

Children settle happily into the nursery. Staff use the effective key-person system to ensure that they build secure physical and emotional relationships with children. Staff use daily practices, such as nappy changing and toilet routines, to support children's emotional well-being and self-esteem. Children begin to learn about how to keep themselves healthy. However, although staff provide healthy food and drink, they do not help children learn about good routines or encourage them to drink regularly to keep hydrated. Staff help children learn about playing safely; for example, staff teach children to climb the steps safely when playing on the slide. Therefore, children learn how to keep themselves safe through careful routines.

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

Overall, staff have a sound understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Managers have effective systems in place to regularly supervise and check staff performance. Effective monitoring ensures that any development needs for staff are identified and, as a result, training and support are provided. Staff understand their responsibilities for safeguarding children and what they would do if they had a concern about a child. However, managers do not implement robust recruitment procedures, and do not ensure that they request Disclosure and Barring Service checks when employing new staff, although unvetted staff are not left unsupervised with children at any time. Managers evaluate the effectiveness of the nursery and ask parents for their views of the setting. They use this information to develop plans to improve their practice and the service they provide. For example, the nursery has recently extended its opening hours as parents had requested this.

Setting details

Unique reference number	151115
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	846711
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Jackie Finlayson, Jillian Cooke, and Janice Bowley Partnership
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2011
Telephone number	077656 75175

The Willows Nursery School registered in 2001. It is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. It operates from the sports pavilion located within the recreational grounds of the village of Liphook, in Hampshire. It is open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3.30pm and Friday 9am to 12.30pm. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four. There are five staff who work at the nursery, of whom four hold relevant childcare qualifications.

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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