

# Longdendale Pre-School

Mottram Community Association, Community Centre, Church Brow, Mottram, Hyde,  
Cheshire, SK14 6JJ



## Inspection date

30 March 2015

Previous inspection date

15 September 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Good	4 2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- Maintenance and storage of staff records is not fully robust, to ensure the safe and efficient management of the setting. As a result, required information about details of Disclosure and Barring Services checks and staff qualifications is not available to view at inspection, so suitability cannot easily be verified.
- There is no programme in place for the supervision of staff, to actively monitor their work, create a culture of mutual support and set targets for professional development.
- There are unsatisfactory procedures in place for checking the ongoing suitability of staff. This compromises children's well-being.
- Monitoring of staff's practice is not yet successful in focusing strongly enough on the quality of teaching. Therefore, teaching is often variable and does not ensure a consistently rich learning experience for all children.
- The committee and manager have not ensured that Ofsted is notified of changes to the committee as part of their safeguarding measures.
- Self-evaluation is not effective enough. The views of staff, children and parents are not fully considered when making decisions about what needs to be improved.

### It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy their time at the setting and play happily with each other and staff.
- Staff have developed positive relationships with parents and strong links with the local school, to support children in their next stage in learning. This means there is a shared approach to children's care and learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that records are available for inspection, with particular regard to information about staff qualifications and the identity checks and vetting processes that have been completed on all staff
- implement appropriate and effective arrangements for the supervision of staff; to monitor their work and create a culture of mutual support, coaching and training, in order to develop staff practices and promote the best interests of children
- develop robust procedures for checking the ongoing suitability of all staff by ensuring staff are aware that they must disclose issues, such as, convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands and warnings that may affect their suitability to work with children
- monitor the quality of teaching effectively and ensure that staff receive the support, coaching and training they need in order to deliver high quality teaching across the provision, so that all children make consistently good progress.

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

- develop effective procedures for self-evaluation, by seeking the views of staff, children and parents to identify strengths and targets for improvement.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children, and the manager's procedures for self-evaluation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector had a tour of the pre-school.

## Inspector

Janet Weston

## Inspection findings

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

The pre-school offers an appropriate learning environment. Children have access to a range of activities that generally support their development across the areas of learning. Most staff employed by the pre-school are qualified to level 3 in childcare. However, they do not always use this knowledge to good effect. For example, they do not ensure planned activities and experiences match all children's needs and challenge them sufficiently. Furthermore, staff miss opportunities to extend children's learning further, by asking questions that encourage them to think more creatively and critically about their answers. In addition, staff who have attended training on the care and education of two year olds have not yet cascaded their knowledge to all staff, in order to make a positive impact. Staff undertake appropriate observations to establish children's achievements and use this information to track their progress.

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

Management has not notified Ofsted of changes in committee members. Although the committee members do not work directly with the children, who are not therefore, put unduly at risk, this is a breach of the welfare requirements. Children are independent and are beginning to acquire the skills and abilities needed in preparation for their future learning and school. They independently select from the healthy choices of snack, which also gives children some control over this part of their day. Staff role model good health and hygiene practices as they encourage children to wipe their noses and wash their hands to help prevent the spread of infection. Children are beginning to show an awareness of how to behave. This is because staff discuss unwanted behaviours with the children. Therefore, children gain a basic awareness of what staff expect from them. Children benefit from fresh air, exercise and develop their physical skills as they attend the weekly forest-school activity. Parents commented they are happy with the care provided and that their children 'love the opportunity to experience the outside classroom'.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate**

The leadership and management of the pre-school is inadequate. Management do not have a robust understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Records to verify all staff qualifications and identity and vetting checks are not available. Furthermore, staff have not been informed that they are expected to disclose anything that might affect their ongoing suitability to work with children. In contrast, all staff are clear about their duties and the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care. Staff are not supported in developing their practice. They do not receive regular supervisions. In addition, the quality of teaching and learning is not effectively monitored. This impacts negatively upon children's learning and progress. Furthermore, self-evaluation is in the early stages and does not yet take into account the views of all those associated with the pre-school. As a result, the pre-school has a weak capacity to maintain or improve the quality of provision for children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	312346
<b>Local authority</b>	Tameside
<b>Inspection number</b>	865020
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	13
<b>Name of provider</b>	Longdendale Pre-School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 September 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	01457 764 499

Longdendale Pre-School was registered in 2001. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12noon. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

