

# Mini Meadows

The Meadows Primary School, Bristol Road South, Northfield, Birmingham, West Midlands, B31 2SW



## Inspection date

29 April 2015

## Previous inspection date

20 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 <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:

- Children's safety and welfare is not fully promoted, because the provider does not ensure that all practitioners consistently follow the setting's safeguarding policy and procedure, this is with particular regard to the use of mobile telephones in the provision.
- Practitioners do not always consider how to help older children self-regulate their time when using popular resources, to ensure that all children who show an interest are able to participate.
- Practitioners do not always make full use of opportunities to extend children's play and learning outdoors, by ensuring a wide range of resources are available.

### It has the following strengths

- Practitioners create a lively and friendly environment where children enjoy a wide range of activities and experiences based on their interests.
- Children are happy and form close bonds with practitioners. Practitioners have a caring and warm rapport with the children, and they effectively support their emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with parents and the host school work very well. Regular information sharing means that practitioners are able to plan activities which complement the younger children's learning, and enhances their future progress.
- Children's good health is promoted. They enjoy nutritious snacks and follow good hygiene practices.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- ensure all practitioners rigorously follow the safeguarding policies and procedures, in relation to the safe use of mobile phones in the setting.

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

- encourage older children to self-regulate their time when using popular equipment, such as computer tablets, for example, by providing them with egg or sand timers
- provide more resources for the outdoor area to build on children's enjoyment and physical development, such as, bats, balls and skipping ropes.

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

- ensure all staff are trained on the procedures to be followed to safeguard children from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure all staff are trained on the procedures to be followed to safeguard children from abuse or neglect (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector looked at areas of the premises that are used by the club.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider/manager, and talked to practitioners and children during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with the children, the club's self-evaluation processes and discussed their improvement plans.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including policies and procedures, children's records and risk assessments.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

### **Inspector**

Jacqueline Nation

## Inspection findings

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

Children are confident and happy in this lively and welcoming club. They settle quickly on arrival and make decisions about what they would like to do. Overall, the quality of teaching and learning is good. Practitioners interact well with the children, and they make the most of opportunities to promote children's learning through discussions and play. They skilfully build on children's learning, as they encourage children to talk about what they are doing. Practitioners explain how to play board games that promote children's critical-thinking and mathematical skills. Children work out how many moves they can make around the board, and play cooperatively with their friends. Children use their creative skills and imagination really well. They love creating their own pictures at the art table and make up their own games in the role-play area. Practitioners make effective use of their observations and children's ideas, to successfully promote their play interests and build on the learning that takes place in school.

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

Children's safety and well-being is not fully assured. This is because the provider has not ensured that all practitioners adhere to the settings procedures with regards to the storage of mobile telephones. In all other respects, children are kept safe and show a strong sense of belonging to the club. Practitioners relate well to all children, offering good support and lively conversations, which suit children's differing ages and development. Children have good opportunities to spend time outdoors. However, there is room to strengthen the range of resources to further enhance children's physical development and enjoyment. Good behaviour is promoted, and children of different ages spend time together, chatting and playing together well. Children develop an awareness of how to keep themselves safe and how to use space and resources in a safe way.

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

The safeguarding and welfare, and learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are understood by the provider/manager. However, while the required policies are in place to safeguard children, sometimes these are not always implemented effectively to help keep children safe. Consequently, on the day of the inspection, the settings procedures for the storage of mobile phones during the session were not followed consistently. Since the last inspection, improvements have been made to ensure all the required documentation is in place to show evidence of practitioner's suitability. This includes evidence of training records, which show the designated safeguarding lead practitioners have completed training for their role. The provider/manager monitors practitioner performance and the effectiveness of the activities provided. Practitioners are encouraged to continue with their professional development using the skills gained to enhance learning experiences for children. Parents spoken to on the day comment that they are extremely happy with the service provided.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY301456
<b>Local authority</b>	Birmingham
<b>Inspection number</b>	1000106
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	200
<b>Name of provider</b>	Kerry Lorna Hastings
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	20 November 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	0121 675 3203

Mini Meadows was registered in 2005. The club employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 to 5. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during school term time. Sessions are from 7.30am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 6pm. A holiday club runs during most school holidays, Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm.

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