

Busy Bees Pre-School

Village Hall, Church Lane, Bishops Sutton, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 0AA



Inspection date

19 May 2015

Previous inspection date

20 May 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:

- The monitoring of the educational programme is not robust enough to ensure that all areas of learning are fully covered.
- Staff do not use the observations and assessments of children's learning effectively to plan activities to promote their individual learning and development.
- Some of the activities lack challenge for the children to promote their learning, to ensure that all children make good progress from their starting points.

It has the following strengths

- Safeguarding practice is rigorous. Staff are effective in ensuring that the environment is safe to promote children's safety and welfare.
- The management team is working through a clear action plan to develop the pre-school further and improve the outcomes for children.
- Children are made aware of the world around them, and identify different aspects like steam from trains and exploring the weather.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure children are offered interesting activities, based on the observations and assessments of their learning, to promote what they need to learn next or consolidate their prior knowledge and skills so they make good progress
- improve the monitoring of the educational programme to ensure all aspects of each area of learning are fully covered to promote children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had discussions with children, staff and parents.
- The inspector observed the children undertaking a range of activities.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents linked to the children's development.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents used to support staff's practice.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Amanda Shedden

Inspection findings

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

Staff observe and assess the children. However, the manager does not monitor this consistently, and staff do not always use the information effectively to inform planning to ensure that all the activities on offer are purposeful and challenge children to promote their learning. There are inconsistencies in the quality of teaching as not all staff interact well to extend or consolidate children's learning. Children enjoy their time in their self-chosen activities and, at times, staff interact very well asking children to remember past events, such as what ingredients they used to make a cake last week. Children were excited as they watched and listened to the hail; staff collected some and engaged children in good quality conversations about hail as children examined it. Staff work with other professionals to give good support to children with additional needs and those children learning English as an additional language, to develop their learning. Staff share information with parents through discussion and written documents about the activities taking place each week, to enable parents to extend children's learning at home.

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

Children feel comfortable and settle quickly due to the caring staff who know their care needs. This supports children in feeling emotionally secure and promotes their physical well-being. Children learn about the importance of adopting healthy lifestyles through fun activities where they experience new foods from 'the rainbow'. They use the garden throughout the day, which has resources for some areas of learning. However, not all staff use these times effectively to promote children's learning and experiences further; for example, to encourage children to count or to think for themselves when using the bricks. Children interact and play well together, and they receive frequent praise which builds on their self-esteem. Overall, children gain some skills for their next stage in learning.

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

The manager has a good understanding of her responsibilities to promote children's safety and welfare. Staff have supervision and cascade knowledge gained from training during regular meetings. However, due to the lack of effective monitoring, this is not effective in addressing the weaknesses in staff practice or delivery of the educational programmes. Progress has been made since the last inspection; the programme for communication, language and literacy has improved and staff gather information from parents about children's starting points. The provider has a good understanding of their responsibility to meet requirements. They use robust recruitment procedures to help ensure that staff are suitable. The manager has created development plans using information from staff and parents, which have identified areas that will help move the pre-school forward.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511327
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	842392
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Busy Bees Pre-School (Bishops Sutton) Committee
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2009
Telephone number	01962 734495

Busy Bees Pre-School was registered in 1992 and operates from the village hall in Bishops Sutton. The pre-school is managed by a committee of parents. The pre-school is open during term time on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.15am to 12 noon, on Tuesdays from 9.15am to 1.30pm, and on Thursdays from 9.15am to 1pm. There are four members of staff and a regular volunteer who work with the children. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications; three at level 3 and one at level 6.

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