

Greenmount Village Pre-School



The Old School, Brandlesholme Road, Greenmount, Bury, BL8 4DS

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

15 May 2015

3 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		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:

- Staff are qualified in early years, but do not always use their knowledge and training to best effect. At times practice is inconsistent. Some staff do not make good use of their interactions with children, which results in the quality of teaching being variable.
- Staff do not use their assessments of children's development well, when planning activities and the learning environment, both indoors and outside. Furthermore, children's individual planning documents are inconsistently completed by staff. This results in activities not being tailored precisely to children's next steps in their learning and means that they do not make best progress.
- Occasionally, children's play experiences are disrupted by staff to complete routines.
- The procedures for monitoring the educational programme and performance management are not effective. Staff do not receive regular support, coaching and training in order to improve their skills and knowledge, therefore, the quality of teaching is raised to a consistently good level.
- The provider has not fulfilled all of her responsibilities, with regard to notifying Ofsted of changes to the committee.

It has the following strengths

- Staff have strong relationships with children. Parents comment how happy they are with the care and support given to their children, and that they feel involved in their child's learning.
- Staff have attended relevant safeguarding training and have a secure understanding of the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the quality of teaching and interactions with children, so that staff are consistently using a range of teaching strategies to challenge and extend children's learning
- ensure all staff make good use of the assessments they make, so that they are consistently used to plan purposeful activities, and that the resources selected for the learning environment both indoor and outside take into account children's current stages of development, their learning styles and their interests
- ensure staff receive support, training and skills to improve personal effectiveness and monitor this effectively to ensure all children benefit from consistently good quality teaching.

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

- review the arrangements of routines, such as snack time so that children's play is not interrupted unnecessarily.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Joanne Parrington

Inspection findings

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

Staff make accurate observations of children's learning. However, staff do not make good use of these assessments, particularly when planning activities and organising the learning environment both indoors and outside. Consequently, some adult-directed activities lack challenge and all children have access to the same activities and resources, regardless of current interests and stages of development. Therefore, not all children are engaged in purposeful play and are not always making the best possible progress. Additionally, at times, staff simply supervise children's play and miss opportunities to engage in conversation and extend their learning. Furthermore, when children are engaged in games outside, their play is interrupted because of routines, such as snack time. This results in children losing the momentum and their games not coming to a natural break. Having said that, some staff do use a range of teaching methods to ignite children interests and motivate them to explore and learn new skills. For example, on outdoor adventures children access gardening plots, where they plant seeds and flowers. Children learn how to care for them and take in their new knowledge as they discover the world around them. Children do make suitable progress and are generally prepared for the move to school.

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

Children and their families are warmly welcomed into this village pre-school. Children enter confidently, searching for their friends ready for a day of play. Staff support children's emotional and social well-being, particularly when they first start their journey in the pre-school. Individual key persons meet with parents and gather information about their child. Strong partnerships with local schools are in place, which further supports children's emotional well-being through this time of change. Children follow good hygiene routines and staff promote children's understanding of making healthy choices by offering healthy snacks. Although some activities and organisation of daily resources do not always take into account children's interests, learning styles and stage of development, children's behaviour is good. Children have good manners and are very polite, which are lovely characteristics to have.

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

The provider does not demonstrate a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, because she has failed to notify Ofsted of a change in committee members. This means they have not had the required suitability checks to effectively safeguard children, although they do not have contact with children. Arrangements for monitoring the educational programmes are not highly effective. Furthermore, performance management systems are weak. Consequently, children are not supported to make the best possible progress and staff do not receive support, coaching and training, to ensure they deliver the very best care and education to all children. All staff attend and keep up to date with mandatory training. However, accessing further training that will improve the quality of teaching is not highlighted by the manager or accessed by staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	316848
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	865108
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	46
Name of provider	Greenmount Village Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 February 2011
Telephone number	01204 88 6276

Greenmount Village Pre-School registered in 1982 and is run by a management committee. The pre-school is open five mornings a week from 9am to 12noon, term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school employs nine members of staff including the manager; of whom eight hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the manager who has achieved Early Years Professional status.

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. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email 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.

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
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

