

Moor Lane Playgroup

Sunnybank Methodist Church Hall, Moor Lane, Downley, High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire, HP13 5YP



Inspection date

9 June 2015

Previous inspection date

9 May 2011

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		Good	2
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 does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider does not follow robust recruitment procedures to ensure the suitability of those employed to work with children. For example, she does not always obtain references or conduct recruitment interviews.
- The provider is not meeting all of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She does not ensure that medication records include all necessary details or that children's hours of attendance are recorded. As a result, children's welfare is not adequately safeguarded. These are also breaches of the Childcare Register.
- The provider is not effective in evaluating the quality of the provision and identifying all areas that need improving.
- On occasion, noise levels rise which disturb some children's concentration.

It has the following strengths

- Staff plan a range of activities that ensure all children make progress in their learning. They ensure an appropriate mix of adult-led and child-initiated play. Staff are effective at supporting children's communication and literacy development.
- Staff identify children likely to benefit from additional support. They work effectively with other professionals to meet these children's needs. As a result, any gaps in learning begin to close.
- Parents feel well informed about their children's progress. They appreciate the advice staff offer about how they can further support their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure recruitment procedures are robust and that all necessary vetting and suitability checks are completed to ensure those looking after children are suitable to do so
- keep a written record every time medication is administered to a child and inform parents on the same day, or as soon as is reasonably practicable
- ensure the daily record of children being cared for on the premises includes their hours of attendance

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

- improve the use of self-evaluation in order to effectively identify areas of the provision that require improvement
- review the organisation of some elements of the play sessions so that the noise from the more active children does not interfere with the learning of those involved in quieter activities.

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

- implement effective systems to ensure that the registered person, and any other person caring for children, is suitable to do so (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record all medication that is administered to any child who is cared for on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of all children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- implement effective systems to ensure that the registered person, and any other person caring for children, is suitable to do so (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record all medication that is administered to any child who is cared for on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of all children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff about their understanding of safeguarding, child protection and first aid.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's records, policies and staff qualifications.

Inspector

Sarah Holley

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Staff make accurate assessments of children's abilities and interests, and plan activities that will help them progress in all areas of learning. They plan a thorough programme of activities to support children's speech and early reading skills. Children develop an understanding of shape and number when sorting and counting shells. They learn how to use tools effectively because staff patiently teach them to use brushes and scissors. The manager has improved the outside area since the last inspection and children are keen to get outside and explore. On occasion, some children become slightly boisterous in their play, which disturbs some quieter activities, such as story reading. The effective partnerships between staff, parents and other professionals helps ensure all children make good progress in their learning and are well-prepared for the next stage in their learning, including the move to school when the time comes.

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

Staff check that the premises are clean and secure. However, they do not ensure that all required records are sufficiently detailed to ensure children's safety and good health. They do not record children's arrival and departure times or when they have administered medication to a child. This compromises children's safety. However, staff do have a clear understanding of what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare and understand the child protection procedures. Staff generally manage children's behaviour well. They teach them to share and take turns. Children are encouraged to hang up their coats and enjoy peeling fruit at snack time. As a result, they grow in confidence and develop their self-help skills. Children generally enjoy their time at pre-school.

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

The manager has not effectively identified the improvements needed in order to meet the requirements of her role. For example, she does not follow a formal and thorough recruitment procedure when appointing new members of staff. This demonstrates a weakness in leadership and breaches the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and associated Childcare Register. Her failure to identify priorities for improvement demonstrates that the quality of reflective practice and the drive for improvement are weak. Most staff hold relevant childcare qualifications, which helps ensure they understand how children learn. Staff make effective use of additional training and supervisions to enhance their teaching. For example, to improve outcomes for children with additional needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	116705
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	835987
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Catharine Piercy
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2011
Telephone number	07767 361909

Moor Lane Playgroup registered in 1992. It is located in the Village of Downly, near High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. It is open from 9.15am until 12.15pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four. It employs seven members of staff, six of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 or level 3.

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