

Clayton Green Happy Times Pre-school and Playscheme

1 Clayton Green Centre, Centre Drive, Clayton-le-Woods, CHORLEY, Lancashire, PR6 7TL

Inspection date	3 June 2015
Previous inspection date	12 December 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		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 have not yet had sufficient time to fully embed the recently revised systems for planning and assessment for children's ongoing learning. In addition, they are not yet actively sharing their initial assessments of children's learning with parents to ensure they have the most accurate overview of children's starting points.
- Staff do not always support children who speak English as an additional language to use their home language in their play.
- Ways to further improve the arrangements for induction and training for managers have not been fully considered.

It has the following strengths

- The management team demonstrate a commitment and ability to make the necessary changes to bring about improvement.
- Staff are warm and caring, and parents and carers speak positively about them. As a result, children have developed secure bonds with those who care for them. They settle quickly and play happily.
- The nursery and equipment are well organised so children have a range of choices, which encourage them to be active and exploratory learners.
- Arrangements for the deployment of staff trained in first aid ensure there is always someone able to respond to emergencies promptly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure the way that staff plan and assess for children's learning becomes rigorously embedded and consistently implemented, so that all children make consistently good progress
- improve the quality of teaching, by supporting staff to develop strategies that provide opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language to develop and use their home language in play and learning. For example, consider the guidance within documents, such as Every child a talker
- ensure staff invite parents to review any initial assessments that staff undertake to identify each child's starting points, and ensure parents continue to be kept well informed about their child's progress and ongoing learning.

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

- develop the arrangements for induction to ensure that any changes to the nominated person are managed efficiently, and provide staff with the relevant information, skills and knowledge to fulfil their role to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, in order to support the manager to continue to improve the quality of the pre-school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. The inspector also held meetings with the nominated individual, the pre-school manager and senior supervisors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector considered the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection, and took account of the information available for parents and staff.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the qualifications and suitability of staff working in the nursery. The inspector also looked at the pre-school's improvement action plan and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked the arrangements for staff trained in first aid and their deployment.

Inspector

Frank Kelly

Inspection findings

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

Children are provided with a suitably broad curriculum that supports all areas of learning. For example, they delight in stretching the play dough, building with blocks and pouring water. As a result, children are making steady and satisfactory progress. A simplified system for assessing and planning children's learning has been introduced. Staff are beginning to focus on children's own needs. The systems for engaging parents more fully in their child's learning are developing. However, these are still in the beginning stage and, so as of yet, do not involve sharing initial assessments or ideas for learning at home. Staff have a range of suitable qualifications and childcare experience. Overall, teaching is good. For example, a game played with older children helps them explore the sounds of letters and their names. Younger children are encouraged to look for mini-beasts. This provides new words to help children extend their vocabulary. Key words to support children who speak English as an additional language are obtained. However, staff do not always use these words to help children make connections as they play. As a result, opportunities to develop children's skills in their home language are overlooked.

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

Staff ensure they spend good quality time with their key group of children, which helps form bonds and promotes children's sense of safety. During activities, staff encourage children to share and be aware of each other's needs. As a result, children are beginning to develop key social skills, which help them behave well and develop friendships. Staff implement effective systems for working in partnership with other professionals to ensure that children's care and learning needs are supported well. Their health is promoted as staff provide a range of fruit and salad at snack times. Children of all ages have opportunities to be active every day. They go on walks, play football and dance. Children learn to keep themselves safe as they hold the handrail on the stairway.

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

The management team demonstrate a sound understanding of their responsibilities, with regard to the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They have implemented a robust action plan for change and improvement. Close working with the local authority, and a substantial increase in financial investment, has allowed for secure improvements to ensure that all actions from the last inspection have been met. Recruitment procedures are reflective of current guidance and staff know the safeguarding procedures well. As a result, children are protected and the pre-school meets the welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, there is currently no induction or specific information for those in higher management to provide clarity about their responsibilities, should changes to the nominated person occur. Regular supervision and provision of additional training is undertaken, and reviews of assessments for children's learning are ongoing, which helps to improve the overall quality of teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309870
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1001835
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Active Nation UK Ltd
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2014
Telephone number	01257 515050

Clayton Green Happy Times Pre-school and Playscheme was registered in 2000. The pre-school employs 11 members of childcare staff, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3 or 5. The pre-school opens from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. It operates a holiday playscheme for older children from 8.30am to 5.30pm.

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