

Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5's



Pettiward Hall, High Road, Great Finborough, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 3BG

Inspection date

18 June 2015

Previous inspection date

17 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
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

- Safeguarding of children is not robust. Ofsted has not been notified of changes to the pre-school committee and checks have not been carried out to show their suitability. Recruitment procedures are not secure enough to ensure all staff members are suitable to work with children.
- The provider has not ensured that all staff are aware of safeguarding procedures or that they follow them correctly in the event of having concerns about a child. The safeguarding policy is outdated as it does not have regard to statutory guidance.
- The system for tracking children's progress is inadequate. Observations and assessments are not frequent or precise enough to ensure that all children make good progress. Consequently, not all children are well prepared for their next stage of learning, such as school.
- Staff do not always promote the good health of children, especially with regard to handwashing before eating.
- The learning environment is not always well prepared or exciting for children as they arrive at the pre-school. Furthermore, on occasions, staff over support and direct the children with art and craft activities.

It has the following strengths

- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are skilfully supported. Staff work with specialist services to ensure all children are fully included in all areas of the pre-school.
- The outdoor learning area is effectively planned and consistently used. Consequently, children who prefer to learn outdoors are supported in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that a robust recruitment procedure is in place and that all checks are made on potential staff members and that records of these checks are kept
- ensure that all staff have a clear and secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities for safeguarding, in order to report any concerns about children's welfare in a timely and appropriate way
- review the safeguarding policy and procedures to ensure that all staff have regard to current statutory guidance
- improve the procedure for assessing and tracking children's development to ensure that all staff have an accurate understanding of children's skills and abilities and are able to swiftly identify and close any gaps in their learning
- promote the good health of all children by reviewing their personal hygiene routines and minimising the risk of the spread of infection.

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

- enhance children's learning experiences, for example, by ensuring all areas are prepared and interesting for them to use and by giving them more freedom to use their creative ideas and skills in adult-directed activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the inside and outside play areas. She also spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and of parental questionnaires.
- The inspector reviewed the self-evaluation documents.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is variable and children's progress is not assured. Some staff do not carry out observations and assessments of children's learning frequently enough. As a result, they do not have an accurate understanding of their key children's next steps in learning and their progress is not maximised. At times, staff over support children particularly during craft activities. Staff give direct instructions about where to stick pre-cut words onto a card. Furthermore, staff do not consistently provide children with high-quality resources. For example, on the day of the inspection, the paint pots and brushes were dried up and not fit to use. Consequently, when children wanted to paint, they were told to play elsewhere until the paint was replenished. Therefore, children are not always given the opportunity to develop their creative skills. Children have time and space to engage in their learning. For example, children work together well with construction toys. They discuss what part of the machine they are making and describe in detail what it can do. They demonstrate their good thinking and negotiation skills as they work and show pride in their achievements. Learning outside is generally good. Staff provide a wide range of activities covering all areas of learning. Children especially enjoy mud play as they make mud soup for staff members.

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

The provider has failed to meet some of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, which compromises children's safety and well-being. The systems in place for children to wash their hands are not always adequate. For example, all children in the pre-school wash their hands in the same bowl of water before eating. This compromises their good health as there is a risk of bacteria spreading. Children play together well and firm friendships are being made. Staff provide healthy snacks and develop children's independence skills as they encourage them to do things for themselves. The outdoor area is popular with the children who enjoy sitting in the playhouse, chatting to each other. The pre-school makes full use of their good links with the community. For example, to celebrate Father's Day, they invited fathers in to share their skills, which included teaching children to count in German. Children have also visited a farm and enjoyed a visit from a police officer.

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

The provider has not notified Ofsted of changes in committee members and there are gaps in records to demonstrate the suitability of some adults involved with the pre-school. For example, there is no evidence that references have been taken on staff new to the setting. Some staff understand and are aware of their responsibility to report any concerns they have about children. However, the provider has failed to ensure that all staff have up-to-date knowledge of the current statutory safeguarding guidance. Furthermore, some staff are unaware of how to report any concerns they have about a member of staff to external organisations. This demonstrates poor leadership and management and that

children are not adequately safeguarded. Staff have many opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding through attending relevant training courses and through undertaking appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school leader carries out annual appraisals each year. However, these opportunities for staff development do not yet have a positive impact on the safety, well-being and good development of the children. The monitoring of the range of activities and the tracking of children's progress is ineffective as the leaders do not challenge staff about gaps in their learning. Some parents also comment that children's development records, which are shared with them, are not updated regularly enough, so they do not know whether their children are making good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251497
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	866532
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5's Committee
Date of previous inspection	17 May 2011
Telephone number	07708 362697

Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5's was registered in 1982. The pre-school employs seven members of staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time. Sessions are from 9.15am until 3.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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