

Nazarene Kindergarten

Southend Street, Daubhill, Bolton, BL3 3PU



Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

7 March 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:

- The staff team all hold relevant childcare qualifications. However, some do not always use their knowledge to best effect, in order to support the children's learning. The quality of teaching is, therefore, variable.
- During some group activities children are not always sufficiently challenged and their ability to listen carefully is not fully supported.
- Some records are not available for inspection, to demonstrate the management of children's welfare needs is fully promoted.
- Managers do not routinely analyse the data collected about the progress that individual children are making.
- Monitoring procedures, to focus on improving the quality of teaching, are in their infancy and so are not yet embedded into practice.
- Opportunities to enhance children's communication and language skills, through effective questioning, are not fully embraced by staff.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and settled. They benefit from a secure attachment with their key person that helps them to feel emotionally secure.
- Children benefit from a well-resourced and accessible learning environment, which promotes their independent learning. Their physical development is well fostered, as they learn to take acceptable risks, while climbing and balancing.
- Strong partnership working enable staff, parents and other professionals to share information regularly. This provides continuity for children's care and their learning and development.
- Staff demonstrate a suitable understanding of how to safeguard children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that staff use information about children's assessed level of ability more effectively, to ensure that the learning is developmentally appropriate, provides sufficient challenge and that children can listen without distraction, when working in small groups
- ensure that all records are available for inspection, to demonstrate the efficient management of the setting and children's welfare, with specific regard to staff records, vetting procedures and identity checks.

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

- use the information gathered from tracking children's progress more effectively, by collating data to identify any gaps in progress that can be attributed to specific groups of children or areas of learning, so that an action plan can be drawn up to address any gaps
- extend the monitoring of staff performance, in order to further support staff practice and focus on improving the quality of teaching
- extend staff practice when questioning children, by asking more challenging questions in order to help children make the best possible progress in their communication skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities and staff interaction in the playroom, church hall, on the veranda and outdoor area.
- The inspector observed snack time with children.
- Discussions were held with children, individual staff members, the deputy manager, a local authority adviser and some parents. A joint observation was carried out with the deputy manager.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including observations, assessments, planning, systems for tracking children's progress and a sample of other records, including risk assessments, accident records, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working with children, self-evaluation records and improvement plans.

Inspector

Kate Smith

Inspection findings

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

Staff use assessments of children's development to plan appropriate next steps for their learning. However, during group activities, they do not always differentiate the learning to take account of the varying levels of ability of all children. Furthermore, during small-group story times, children become restless and some lose interest as they are distracted by other groups of children. This makes it more difficult for children to hear clearly and to concentrate. Teaching is variable, resulting in children making steady, rather than good, progress. Children who speak English as an additional language receive targeted support to foster their communication skills. Children follow their own ideas as they create a waterfall. Skilled staff support children's thinking, by asking questions, such as how they can make the water flow for longer. However, some staff often ask questions that require only a one word answer. Therefore, children's language development is not maximised. Parents are well informed and join in play sessions to support their children's learning.

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

The learning environment is safe and stimulating. Staff are well deployed. They support children's independent access to the indoor and outdoor areas, enabling them to play and learn in different ways. Children's health is well promoted through nutritious snacks and daily outdoor exercise. Staff encourage children's self-help skills. For example, children wash their own hands and pour their own drinks. Staff are positive role models, supporting children in their understanding of clear boundaries and expectations. Consequently, children are learning to manage their own behaviour, share and play cooperatively. Staff promote children's self-confidence and independence. These skills will help children when they move on to school. Not all documentation, regarding staff recruitment procedures was available on the day of the inspection. However, the impact on children's safety is not significant. This is because certificates of qualifications and Disclosure and Barring Service checks for staff were available for inspection.

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

Managers are well qualified, but have only very recently begun to carry out evaluative observations of individual staff performance. Consequently, these are not yet effective enough to ensure that the quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff receive training and have recently begun to track children's progress in their learning. However, managers do not use this data effectively. For example, they do not identify any gaps in the development of specific groups of children, or to highlight weaknesses in different areas of learning. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities have appropriate individual packages of support in place to enhance their learning. Self-evaluation of the provision is realistic. Development plans are meaningful and demonstrate a desire to improve. Managers follow safer recruiting procedures, but do not ensure that all documentation is available for inspection. This is a breach of requirements. Effective risk assessment supports children's safety. Parents' comments are positive about the provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403573
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	855440
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	56
Name of provider	The Church of the Nazarene Board Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2011
Telephone number	01204 651300

Nazarene Kindergarten was registered in 1976. It employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, the manager holds a qualification at level 4 and the deputy manager holds a qualification at level 6. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, for 48 weeks each year. Sessions are from 9am until 4pm. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The provision supports children who speak English as an additional language, and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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