

Punch And Judy Playgroup

Lympne Village Hall, Aldington Road, Lympne, HYTHE, Kent, CT21 4LE



Inspection date

29 June 2015

Previous inspection date

4 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 provider has not notified Ofsted of changes to the committee within the required time. As a result, Ofsted have not been able to determine their suitability. This is a breach of the requirements in the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register. However, this does not impact significantly on children's safety as committee members do not have unsupervised access to the children.
- Staff do not always effectively deploy themselves so they are aware of all the children during their play. This means that staff do not always remind children of the rules and boundaries that are in place.
- Staff do not always consistently use the same behaviour strategies to develop children's understanding of behaviour expectations and boundaries, such as sharing and turn taking.

It has the following strengths

- Staff attend training and have a secure knowledge of child protection issues. They are aware of the procedure to follow should they have any concerns about a child or a member of staff. Management ensures that staff who work directly with children are suitable to work with children. Therefore, children remain safe.
- Staff provide children with a range of good quality toys and resources. These are easily available for them to develop their independence skills and make choices about their own play.
- Staff have good partnerships with parents. This helps to meet children's individual needs and promote continuity of care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve knowledge of changes that must be notified to Ofsted and the required time scale, for example, changes to members of the committee
- review deployment of staff to ensure they are consistently aware of all the children's actions and play.

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

- review behaviour strategies to ensure all practitioners consistently use the same approach to support children's learning.

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

- improve knowledge of changes of circumstances that Ofsted must be informed of (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- provide Ofsted with the names, dates of birth, addresses and telephone numbers of all the committee members (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- improve knowledge of changes of circumstances that Ofsted must be informed of (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy, and completed a joint observation with the manager of the provision.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's development records, and key policies and procedures.
- The inspector listened to the views of a selection of parents.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

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

Staff plan interesting adult-directed activities for the children to complete; however, often too many children participate in these activities. This affects the quality of the teaching and learning as staff spend time managing behaviour. Staff understand that some children learn more effectively outdoor and create daily opportunities for them to play and exercise in the fresh air. This promotes children's learning opportunities. Staff regularly observe and assess children's play to ensure they make progress from their starting points. Parents feel informed about their children's progress through regular meetings and discussions. Staff enable children to have ample experiences to develop their early writing skills through activities that interest them and improve their fine motor skills. Staff take every opportunity to expand children's language and conversation. In small groups, children talk about their weekend and individually staff expand their vocabulary by labelling their actions while they are playing with the playdough or making hats.

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

Staff are not always consistently aware of the children's actions during their play as they are completing an activity or working with an individual child. Therefore, children do not always receive support to use appropriate play and develop an understanding of the rules and boundaries. Staff run a well-organised snack time where they extend children's social and independence skills. Children enjoy picking their own fruit as they discuss healthy eating and have opportunities to develop their small muscles as they wash up their own cups and plates. Children enjoy attending and form strong bonds with their key person. Staff support children to manage changes as they teach them skills needed for the move to school. They regularly exchange information with other early years settings the children may attend to help to ensure continuity of learning and care.

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

The provider has failed to ensure that they meet all of the legal requirements for the Early Years Register and Childcare Register. There have been changes to the committee and Ofsted have not been informed as required. However, this has no direct impact on the children's well-being or safety as committee members are not alone with the children and have completed Disclosure and Barring Service checks. Management has suitable induction and supervision procedures to ensure staff feel supported and attend regular training. Staff have attend training about communication and language which has refreshed ideas and encouraged them to change their snack time. The deputy monitors the children's progress to ensure they progress well in all areas of learning. She cascades information to staff to help to ensure support for children who are progressing less well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127358
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840648
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Punch And Judy Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2011
Telephone number	07527111584

Punch And Judy Playgroup registered in 1987. It is managed by a committee and is located in Lympne, Kent. The playgroup is open each weekday, except Tuesdays, during term times. On Monday and Friday it opens from 9am to 3am, and on Wednesday and Thursday it opens from 9am to 12.45pm. The playgroup employs seven staff; of these, one holds Early Years Professional Status, one holds appropriate early years childcare qualifications to level 4 and two hold qualifications to level 3. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for two-, three-, and four-year-olds.

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

