

# Blackboys Pre-School

The Community Hall, Gun Road, Blackboys, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 5JY



<b>Inspection date</b>	20 May 2015
Previous inspection date	20 May 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has failed to inform Ofsted about the changes to the management committee. Therefore, suitability checks have not been completed. This is a breach of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the associated Childcare Register.
- Staff do not receive regular supervision in order to identify training needs and support their professional development.
- The provider has not ensured that children's records contain all the required information about children.
- Staff have not fully considered how to increase children's independent access to the wide range of resources in the garden as the boxes are stored in a way that means children have to ask staff for help. Consequently, they do not always access the resources available to them.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff use accurate observations of children to plan clear next steps in children's learning. Therefore, children make good progress.
- Staff work well to keep parents up to date and involve them in the pre-school community. Parents are able to join in pre-school projects to support the development of the setting.
- Children learn about healthy eating and lifestyles as staff encourage them to tend to the setting's allotment. Children grow their own vegetables and use them in cooking activities.

## 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 the notification requirements in order to ensure that Ofsted is informed of changes to the committee members
- improve staff supervision arrangements in order to provide support, coaching and training to raise the quality of teaching and staff's professional development
- ensure all required records are kept for each child, with particular regard to where the child normally lives and who has parental responsibility.

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

- increase opportunities for children to independently access the range of resources available to them in the garden.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and carers and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including policies and procedures, suitability checks and training records.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning, and viewed children's learning profiles and communication books.
- The inspector spoke to staff about the children and their roles in the setting.

### Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

## 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 challenge children's thinking effectively with supportive questions and encouragement. For example, staff helped children to look at the detailed pictures on the puzzle pieces and place the pieces in the correct places by asking them about what they could see on the puzzle piece. Staff support children's learning well at home with a range of books which children can select from daily to share with their parents. The staff monitor individual children's progress and the whole group progress together. This enables staff to plan activities and experiences to support children who are making less than expected progress. Children look after the setting's guinea pigs and hamsters and learn how to handle them appropriately. This means that children learn about how to care for others and the world around them well.

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

Staff have good relationships with the children, which supports children's emotional development well. Children demonstrate a high level of independence and complete tasks for themselves. For example, children use the printer and copier to copy their own work. This helps children develop confidence ready for their move on to school. Staff work well with the local school teachers to support children and share appropriate information so children feel at ease. Staff maintain appropriate accident and medication records and effectively monitor children's well-being.

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

The provider has not met all of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They have not understood their responsibility to inform Ofsted about the changes to the management committee. Therefore, Ofsted has not been able to check their suitability. However, committee members are not left alone with children so the impact is minimal. The provider has not implemented an effective system for staff supervision. Therefore, staff do not have one-to-one sessions to discuss any concerns about children, staff or their own professional development. However, the staff team meets regularly to discuss children's progress, plan activities and discuss training needs. The provider has not ensured that all required information regarding where children live and who has parental responsibility is recorded on children's registration forms. The staff use self-evaluation to identify the strengths and weaknesses, taking into consideration parents' comments. However, this is not used robustly to ensure that all legal requirements are met.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	109388
<b>Local authority</b>	East Sussex
<b>Inspection number</b>	839592
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	25
<b>Name of provider</b>	Blackboys Pre-School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	20 May 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	01825 891113

Blackboys Pre-School registered in 1992. It is run by a voluntary committee and is open from 8.45am to 3.30pm, Monday to Friday, term time only. There are five members of staff employed to work with the children, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school provides free early education for children aged two, three and four.

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.

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