

Huntley Playgroup

Village Hall, North Road, Huntley, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL19 3DU



Inspection date

23 April 2015

Previous inspection date

16 February 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		Good	2
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

- The committee has not carried out necessary updated enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks on all staff to ensure their continued suitability to work with children.
- Staff do not have Disclosure and Barring Service checks carried out on them to assess their suitability but they have unsupervised contact with children. This potentially puts children at risk.
- Staff expect children to line up to wash their hands before they eat. This wastes time and, as a result, younger children have to sit and wait before they can start to eat. This arrangement reduces the amount of time children can spend outside during the morning session.
- Staff are aware of the need to link with other early years settings that children attend. Although staff have made contact with these settings, they have yet to share information about these children, so all adults are able to support their learning and progress well.

It has the following strengths

- Children progress well in their learning because staff are knowledgeable about how children learn. They assess children and meet their individual learning needs well.
- Children have developed close attachments to staff. They are confident and comfortable in their surroundings, so are happy to explore the resources available.
- There are good partnerships with parents. Regular information is shared with them, so they are able to support children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks are obtained for every adult who works directly with the children in the playgroup
- ensure that any adult whose suitability has not been checked through an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, does not have unsupervised contact with children being cared for in the playgroup.

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

- improve the management of routines so that younger children do not have to sit and wait for older ones to be ready before eating
- strengthen links with early years settings that children also attend, so all adults involved with these children are able to contribute effectively to children's learning and progress

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

- ensure that the registered person, the manager and any person caring for, or in regular contact with children is suitable to work with children by the completion of an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that the registered person, the manager and any person caring for, or in regular contact with children is suitable to work with children by the completion of an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main hall and outside play space.
- The inspector held a meeting with the chair of the playgroup committee, spoke to the play leader, staff and children, and took into account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector checked the evidence of background checks and qualifications of staff working with children, discussed the provider's self-evaluation and improvement plan.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including children's records, safeguarding procedures, risk assessments, policies and procedures, and discussed these.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with stimulating activities across all areas of learning. Clear observations and assessments enable staff to monitor children's progress and provide activities that challenge children and reflect their interests. Children are supported in gaining communication and language skills well. Staff use questions to help children think. For example, when outside, children talk confidently about how bubbles feel, how big or small the bubbles are and suggest why the bubbles float away when the wind blows. These experiences support children's mathematical development and understanding of the world around them, as well as extending their vocabularies. Children enjoy looking at books alone and in a group. They sit fully engaged as they listen to stories. They enjoy recalling the story when opportunities arise. The quality of teaching is at a consistently good standard, and prepares children well in gaining essential skills for school.

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

Children are comfortable and they feel safe in the adults' company. Staff have a caring approach towards the children. However, staff do not have appropriate background checks. This has the potential to put children at significant risk. Children are well behaved. They understand the rules of the setting. Staff teach children about suitable personal hygiene practices and are good role models. Staff meet children's physical care needs for food and drink; however, during preparation for mealtimes, the younger children have to sit and wait until all children are sitting down before they start to eat. These staff expectations are not appropriate for the younger ones' stages of development. Due to the management of snack time, it can mean that children have limited time outside during the morning sessions. When outside, children benefit from the play opportunities provided.

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

The new chairperson and committee have a limited understanding about the processes regarding the completion of enhanced checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service. This means that all staff did not have updated suitability checks when they started work at the playgroup. However, Ofsted do not intend to take any action because the chairperson took immediate action during the inspection to start the necessary checking processes for herself and for all staff and to make sure unchecked staff do not have unsupervised contact with children. Regular staff reviews identify areas for professional development and any training that will help improve the quality of teaching. Staff are clear about child protection procedures should they have any concerns about children's welfare. Parents speak highly about the care provided. They receive detailed information about their children's progress and experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101665
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	845833
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	23
Name of provider	Huntley Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2011
Telephone number	01452 831 351

Huntley Playgroup registered in 1994. It is located in Huntley in the GL19 postcode of Gloucestershire. The playgroup is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9.15am to 2.15pm during school terms. The playgroup committee receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of three staff, which includes the manager/play leader, work directly with the children. All staff have appropriate early years childcare qualifications at level 3.

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