

Barlow Moor Community Association

23 Mersey Bank Avenue, Manchester, Lancashire, M21 7NT



Inspection date

17 September 2015

Previous inspection date

26 November 2014

	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
The quality and standards of the early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Planning does not always fully challenge individual children to ensure they make the best possible progress and prepare them for their next stage of learning.
- The 2 year progress check for children is not always completed and outcomes shared with parents. Therefore, leaders are not fully aware of children's needs and how to best support children's learning.
- The current 'buffet' style snack system is not fully effective as some children do not take advantage of the healthy food and drink on offer. They are either unaware that it is available or choose to carry on with their activities.

It has the following strengths

- The recently appointed manager, with support from the provider, has made significant improvements to the nursery. She has high expectations of the staff group who have responded well to the changes.
- Most children are new to the setting and show remarkable confidence as they move happily from indoors to the outside to explore and investigate the wide range of high quality play equipment.
- Staff are good role models. They are polite and respectful towards the children and show kindness as they comfort and support the few children who are still settling-in.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery and are delighted with how well their children have settled. As one parent commented 'it is perfect for their age'.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ plan activities that provide sufficient challenge for individual children based on their needs, interests and stage of development	30/10/2015
■ review the progress of all children aged between two and three years and provide parents with a written summary of their child's development in the prime areas.	30/10/2015

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

- review the current snack arrangements to ensure that all children take advantage of a healthy snack and drink.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main room and the outdoor area.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held meeting with the provider and manager and spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including children's records, evidence of qualifications and discussed plans for improvement.

Inspector

Kathryn Gethin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The new manager has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. As a result of recent training staff have a better understanding of how to help children learn. The new leadership has resulted in staff taking on new roles and responsibilities and they have risen to this challenge. Improvement plans are in place and priorities have been set. All policies and procedures have been reviewed and new systems set up to monitor the quality of teaching. Managers work well with the local authority quality assurance team and value their support. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are knowledgeable and some are experienced in working alongside professionals from other agencies to safeguard children. Effective links with a local school have been established. Although activities are of a good quality planning does not as yet address the needs of individual children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff use their new found knowledge to support children well. They encourage children to experiment with paint and sand and extend children's language well as they ask them to describe the different textures of each. Many children are new to the setting and most are happy to play alongside each other which is typical for their age. However, a clear friendship has already been established between two boys. Their excitement is infectious as they seek each other out and follow each other around the outdoor track skilfully 'driving their vehicles' around bends and over small bridges. Some children are already able to concentrate for a good length of time as they skilfully line up clothes pegs and cars without interruption. Other children are curious when they find a worm on the patio. Staff take this opportunity to build on their interest and gently pick the worm up and encourage the children to hold it.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff are extremely supportive and caring towards the children. They are sensitive to the needs of new children who still need dummies and 'comfort blankets' at certain times and constantly reassure children who are still very upset after separating from their parents. Children are growing in confidence as they become familiar with the setting and explore activities on offer. They move freely from the indoor play room to the good sized outdoor area and are learning to share and wait for their turn. Children behave very well and staff are skilled in encouraging them to have respect for each other and to look after play equipment. Children enjoy the healthy snack of grapes, cheese and crackers. They handle cutlery well and learn the importance of washing their hands before eating. However, some children continue with their play and miss out on the healthy food and drink on offer.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children do not always make the best possible progress from their starting points as activities do not always offer sufficient challenge to meet their individual needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	500011
Local authority	Manchester
Inspection number	1027249
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Barlow Moor Community Association Committee
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2014
Telephone number	0161 446 4805

Barlow Moor Community Association Nursery was registered in 1992. It is managed by a committee and is situated in the Barlow Moor area of Chorlton, Manchester. The nursery operates from one main room and has an enclosed outdoor play area. It is open five days a week term time only. Morning sessions run from 8.30am to 11.30am and afternoon sessions from 12.15pm to 3.15pm. Occasional crèche facilities are provided to support adult training courses. The nursery employs nine members of staff, who work directly with the children. Eight of these have an appropriate qualification. The nursery provides funded early education for two-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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