

St Nicholas Pre - School

St. Nicholas C of E Primary School, Kilmersdon Road, Radstock, BA3 3QH



Inspection date	20 November 2015
Previous inspection date	9 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider, the designated safeguarding officer and staff fail to implement their safeguarding policy to ensure children's safety, and do not make detailed records of concerns. This put children's safety at risk.
- The provider, the designated safeguarding officer and staff do not liaise appropriately or quickly enough with child protection agencies or other professionals when there are concerns about children's safety or welfare. Children's safety is significantly compromised.
- The provider has not ensured that staff clearly understand that they must disclose anything that may affect their suitability to work with children.
- Not all children gain the key skills they need for the next steps in their learning. Staff do not sufficiently support some children who are learning English as an additional language or have additional needs. Staff do not take swift enough action to close gaps in learning or tailor activities to meet children's individual needs.

It has the following strengths

- Staff develop good relationships with children and parents, who speak positively about their children's experience in the pre-school.
- Children enjoy a wide range of learning experiences in the interesting and well-resourced outdoor environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

- | | Due Date |
|---|-----------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure all staff implement the policy and procedure for safeguarding children, provide clear records of concerns, and respond in a timely and appropriate way to report any signs of possible abuse and neglect | 07/12/2015 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure the designated lead for safeguarding and, where appropriate, key persons, understand the importance of working in partnership and liaising effectively with children's services and any other agencies to share safeguarding issues and information appropriately and in a timely manner | 07/12/2015 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure managers and staff understand their responsibility to declare any changes that may affect their suitability to work with children. | 07/12/2015 |

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

- | | Due Date |
|---|-----------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure staff use information from assessments to plan challenging and enjoyable learning experiences that are tailored to children's individual needs to help close emerging gaps and help children make good progress, especially for those who are learning English as an additional language or who have additional needs. | 07/12/2015 |

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff's interactions with them indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager, checked suitability and qualification records for staff and sampled some policies and procedures. The inspector had a long discussion about safeguarding children with the manager and deputy.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times and viewed some assessment and planning documents.
- The inspector spoke with parents to seek their views.

Inspector

Claire Brummitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. Management and staff do not implement safeguarding procedures or liaise promptly and effectively to protect children. They do not share serious safeguarding concerns with other relevant agencies and professionals, which means that they fail to protect children from harm. Records about children's welfare and safety are poor; they do not include sufficient information to help relevant agencies to investigate concerns. Managers meet with staff to discuss their performance. However, the provider has failed to ensure that staff fully understand their responsibility to disclose anything that may affect their suitability to work with children. The provider cannot ensure that adults who care for children continue to be suitable. Staff are not always released to attend child protection meetings to enable them to exchange information with other professionals to better inform child protection plans. The views of parents and staff are taken into account to inform the pre-school's self-evaluation, which has led to some improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff have suitable qualifications but do not always use their knowledge to provide appropriate learning activities for children or to teach effectively. Staff do not plan some activities, such as circle time, well enough and children become bored, aimless and do not learn effectively. Staff document children's development to enable their parents to know how well they are progressing. However, planning is not always effective, especially for some children with additional needs or those who are learning English as an additional language. Managers monitor children's progress and help staff identify gaps in children's development. However, they do not use this information to provide additional support quickly enough to help children catch up. Some sound teaching takes place. For example, staff develop children's understanding about the natural world through learning about insects. Staff teach children to count and measure. For example, children count how many spoonfuls of soil they need to fill the bucket.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children are not safe because staff fail to respond to child protection concerns promptly or effectively. Children's behaviour is generally good. Staff sensitively explain their expectations. Children readily share and play alongside each other. Staff teach children good hygiene routines. Children enjoy regular physical play in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Most children learn the skills they need for school. However, staff do not target actions effectively to close gaps in learning for some children who are learning English as an additional language or who have additional needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417834
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	822653
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	41
Name of provider	Joanna Gallop
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2011
Telephone number	01761 485067

St Nicholas Pre-School registered in 2010. It operates from a modular building which is attached to St Nicholas Primary School in Radstock, Bath and North East Somerset. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.30am until 3.30pm during term time. The pre-school receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs five members of staff. All staff hold childcare qualifications at level 3.

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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