

Pipit Pre-School

27 Finch Road, Eastney, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO4 9LT



Inspection date

26 November 2015

Previous inspection date

25 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Management does not follow their policy to ensure that new staff do not have unsupervised contact with children until a new Disclosure and Barring Service check is complete. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements. However, this does not significantly compromise children's safety because management completes robust recruitment and suitability checks on all staff.
- Staff miss some opportunities to fully engage all children in the activities they lead to keep them fully occupied at all times.
- Staff complete some tasks for children that they could do for themselves, missing opportunities to fully promote their independence.

It has the following strengths

- Staff establish warm and caring relationships with children. They settle quickly and are happy in the welcoming and secure environment provided.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents, who speak positively about the pre-school. They feel they are fully involved in their children's learning and say that the staff know their children well.
- Staff are good role models. They encourage children to form positive relationships with others, share and help each other.
- Children make good progress in their learning, achieving the skills they need for future learning and the move to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- implement procedures consistently to ensure that any member of staff whose Disclosure and Barring Service check has not been fully completed does not have any unsupervised access to children. 03/12/2015

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

- strengthen activities led by adults to enable all children to participate more fully and develop their skills according to their individual abilities
- support children to extend their independence even further and manage a wider range of tasks for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children and the quality of teaching during a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the manager of the pre-school.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Jayne Godden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Overall, the provider has a suitable understanding of the requirements. Since the last inspection, the provider has improved employment procedures to check staff's ongoing suitability to work with children. This includes regularly reviewing their work and promoting training to improve outcomes for children. There are clear procedures for supervising new staff until they have a new Disclosure and Barring Service check. However, there are some brief occasions when new staff complete personal care tasks unsupervised. Children's safety is not at risk because of the thoroughness of other recruitment checks and the presence of staff nearby. The manager monitors the quality of the provision and children's learning, identifying areas for improvement. She has good knowledge of how all children are developing. She implements effective processes for sharing information when children also attend another provider to promote continuity in their learning. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection and what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of children's learning. Since the last inspection, they have introduced more effective systems of observation to fully support children's learning. They identify any gaps and take effective action to close them. For example, they have introduced different methods, such as a whiteboard, to encourage boys with their early writing. Resources are easily accessible. Children choose what they want to do and direct their own play. Children experience a broad range of activities to support their learning in all areas, although occasionally some are not fully tailored to support every child.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff use settling-in visits to obtain information about children's interests, routines and family information. The key-person system is well established. This helps children to build their confidence. Children behave well as they take turns, share resources willingly and support each other throughout the day. Staff remind children calmly of the rules of the setting to help them understand about staying safe, such as walking inside. However, management does not always follow their own safety procedures to supervise new staff until all suitability checks are fully complete. Staff teach children about the importance of healthy eating and consistently promote good hygiene routines, including when changing nappies. Overall, staff encourage children to be independent learners, although they miss some opportunities to fully extend them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress because the quality of teaching is effective. Staff use their good knowledge of child development to motivate children and help them achieve well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY253045
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	837196
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	Naval Under Fives (Eastern Area) Committee
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2010
Telephone number	07825 842728

Pipit Pre-school is one of eight pre-schools managed by Portsmouth Naval Under Fives. It registered in 2003. The pre-school is open each weekday during school term times from 9.15 am to 3.15pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged three and four years. The pre-school employs four staff; all hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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