

Herga Opportunity Playgroup

Northolt Road Communal Hall, Northolt Road, South Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 0NR

Inspection date	6 November 2015
Previous inspection date	12 October 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Not all staff have a robust knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding procedure. Consequently, children's safety is not assured.
- The managing committee has failed to complete the process to notify Ofsted of a change of nominated person and manager as required. As a result Ofsted do not have the relevant information to complete the checks to ensure suitability to work with children.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy, they show significant levels of independence for their age and are confident. They quickly settle and develop close attachments to staff. This has a positive impact on children's learning and progress.
- Staff support children with special educational needs well. They liaise with parents and other professionals to ensure that children receive relevant support and continuity in their learning and development.
- Effective partnerships are in place with parents. Staff consider parents' views through questionnaires and act on what they say. Parents speak highly of the staff and are involved in their children's learning.
- Staff make good links with schools and outside agencies to provide consistency of care and prepare children well for their move on to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure that all staff are trained so that they are able to identify signs of possible abuse and neglect and can ensure prompt and effective action is taken to protect children.	20/11/2015

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation, such as the playgroup's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Kulwant Singh

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are ineffective. The management committee has failed to complete all relevant documentation when notifying Ofsted of a change of manager and nominated person. This shows a lack of understanding about the basic principles of being a registered provider and as such puts children at risk. Appropriate recruitment procedures are in place to check whether staff, including the manager, are suitable to work with children. The manager demonstrates suitable knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. However, she has failed to ensure that all staff have the required understanding to be able to recognise when children may be at risk of abuse or to follow procedures for protecting children. Staff have regular and supportive supervision meetings with the manager to review the quality of their work. There are well-established links with the schools that children attend. Information is effectively shared to ensure continuity in children's care and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a welcoming environment, where children learn through play and exploration. They have recently adopted new ways to observe and assess children's learning and development that is beginning to improve their planning further. Children enjoy a wide variety of exciting activities. They explore natural objects and use their imagination to build tracks using wooden logs. Staff skilfully provide opportunities for children to use their home language as well as English in their play and learning. Together they discuss, share and read favourite stories. Information about children's ongoing development is shared regularly with parents and they are supported to extend learning at home. Older children learn to recognise their name in print and begin to write recognisable letters. This helps to prepare them for the next stages of their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children easily settle within the playgroup. There is a well-established key-person system, which helps children to have secure attachments with staff. When children arrive for sessions, staff comfort them and encourage them to engage in activities. Children are confident and self-assured within their surroundings. They eat a variety of healthy snacks and have access to drinking water throughout sessions. Children learn to be independent. For example, staff encourage older children to serve each other while younger children feed themselves. Children learn good hygiene routines. For example, staff explain the reasons for why it is important to wash hands before eating. Children have daily outdoor exercise. They behave well, respect each other and listen to requests made by adults. However, not all staff have the required knowledge to assure children's safety at all times.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding for early education, make good progress from their starting points. They are eager to learn when playing and exploring. Children develop skills needed for the next stage in their learning and are suitably for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	509003
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1024374
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Herga Opportunity Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 October 2010
Telephone number	07950 265078

Herga Opportunity Playgroup was registered over 25 years ago. The playgroup employs nine members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Morning sessions are from 9.15am and 12.15pm and afternoon sessions are between 1pm and 4pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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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