

Cherhill Preschool

Cherhill Primary School, Middle Lane, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8XX



Inspection date

27 January 2016

Previous inspection date

24 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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:

- The provider does not have robust systems to ensure that all staff, including apprentices, are suitable to work with children. Not all documentation is available for inspection. The provider cannot demonstrate that robust suitability checks have been taken up for all staff.
- The manager is unaware of the latest government initiatives linked to safeguarding, so is unable to support the staff in understanding all the potential dangers to young children.
- Staff do not always support children in their creative thinking to extend their ideas. There is lack of own choice in this area and the opportunity to independently access resources. This reduces children's independence and creative development.

It has the following strengths

- The staff support the personal, social and emotional development of those children who need more support, when they first arrive, by being available. The key-person approach operates effectively to help children to feel secure in the pre-school.
- The setting has developed good links with the on-site school especially to support children who have special educational needs.
- The staff have developed the outdoor area since the last inspection, giving children more challenge in this area. Children use this area to develop their physical skills and to promote their general well-being effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ follow the setting's recruitment procedure by ensuring references are requested for all staff members, and are available for viewing during inspection	26/02/2016
■ improve knowledge around the latest government initiatives so staff are best supported to keep the children and their families safe.	26/02/2016

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

- extend children's creative opportunities by allowing more choice in this area, and encourage independent expression.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities throughout the setting, including the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, the staff and the children at appropriate times through the sessions.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff background suitability checks, quality assurance and planning paperwork, and children's records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with some parents on the inspection day to take account of their views.

Inspector
Sue Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider and the manager do not fully implement the statutory requirements. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what they must do if concerned about a child's welfare and who to approach should they have concerns about a staff member. However, the provider does not have a robust process for checking the backgrounds of all adults to ensure fully their suitability to work with children. Some required documents relating to these checks were unavailable for inspection. The staff are supported in completing relevant training, mostly mandatory training, but as the manager is unaware of the latest government initiatives she is unable to support staff in understanding new legislation. However, these failures to meet requirements have not had a significant impact on children's safety. Parents report that they are happy with the pre-school. The pre-school participates in a quality assurance process where targets are set and worked on over time. The staff use this for their self-evaluation of the pre-school's service.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff offer children a variety of stimulating resources and activities, indoors and outdoors. Children enjoy challenging experiences overall and play cooperatively. Staff track children's progress and identify what they need to learn next. They encourage parents to help in establishing the children's starting points. The special educational needs coordinator supports children who have special educational needs well. There are good links with relevant professionals so that pre-school staff meet the needs of these children effectively. Staff promote children's early literacy and mathematics well. For example, children learn about different shapes during painting activities and link these to what they see around them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff help children develop confidence through knowing them. For example, if children arrive at the setting unsettled, the staff spend time in reassuring them. Staff manage children's behaviour appropriately. Children's attendance is followed up if they fail to attend the setting on their booked sessions. The key-person approach is organised effectively so each child and their family have a point of contact. Children enjoy being physically active as part of learning about healthy lifestyles. For example, they use a rope to pull themselves up a muddy slope, while others climb up the slope using large tyres.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress in relation to what is typical for their age. They gain the skills they need to move on to school, such as learning to recognise and write their names, and learning to count.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337888
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	827432
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	37
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Cherhill Preschool
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2010
Telephone number	01249 812871

Cherhill Pre-School started in 1978 and re-registered at its current premises in 2006. It is open from 8.45am until 3pm during school terms. There are six members of staff and all but one hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school is funded to provide free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

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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