Willow Tree Pre-School

Academy Road, Woolwich, London, SE18 4DJ



Inspection date	29 January 2016
Previous inspection date	1 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and mai	nagement	Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and v	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:

- The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of the individual members who belong to the committee. Therefore, Ofsted has been unable to carry out suitability checks as required. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register.
- Staff deployment does not always effectively meet the needs of some children. Some younger children's behaviour is disruptive during group activities and poor staff deployment means this has a negative impact on other children's learning.
- Staff do not always support children to interact well with others, such as learning to take turns during conversations.
- Self-evaluation is not always accurate and does not consistently include the views of parents. The provider has failed to identify and act effectively on priorities for improvement.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy being physically active. They develop confidence in their abilities when they explore outside equipment, such as the climbing frame.
- Children use their imaginations well. They pretend to have a picnic in the jungle and talk about watching out for lions.
- Children share resources well. For example, they take turns to move little toy vehicles along a track.

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

- ensure that Ofsted is informed of changes to committee members 21/02/2016 so that suitability checks can be carried out
- ensure staff deployment is managed effectively at all times to meet 21/02/2016 the individual needs of all children, including supporting cooperative and positive behaviour during activities.

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

strengthen self-evaluation to identify all areas of weak practice and continually raise the quality of the provision, including taking account of the views of parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and their interactions with staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documents, including staff qualifications and the preschool's policies and procedures.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children.

Inspector

Geetha Ramesh

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. The provider has not kept Ofsted informed of changes to the committee to ensure the required suitability checks are carried out. This is a breach of requirements, but Ofsted does not intend to take further action at this time. The committee members do not have unsupervised access to children so this does not have an impact on children's safety. Self-evaluation is not fully effective. The provider does not review practices regularly to make improvements. She has not established procedures to seek parents' views on areas that need further development. The manager and staff track children's development to identify any gaps in their learning. The manager supervises staff practice appropriately and identifies further training needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff deployment is inconsistent and does not always meet the needs of children. For example, during a group activity designed to teach children about taking turns, one member of staff was working with 11 children. She was unable to successfully deal with two younger children who became disruptive and this resulted in interruptions to older children's learning. Children explore outside. For instance, they wave streamers in the air while playing and staff ask them questions about the wind to extend their learning. Staff make effective use of knowledge from training they have attended. For example, they encourage children's curiosity as they make music with natural materials, such as sticks and pebbles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff do not consistently support children to cooperate and display positive behaviour during activities. For instance, they do not always help children to follow instructions during group activities or encourage them not to talk over each other during conversations. Staff support children's emotional needs and children are confident and settled. Staff prepare children well for the move to school. For example, they read books about moving to school and discuss this process. Staff share information with parents and local schools to help ensure that children have a smooth transfer. Children learn to make healthy choices and staff work in partnership with parents to meet children's dietary needs.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children make steady progress towards the next stages in their learning and their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY280609

Local authority Greenwich

Inspection number 847226

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 24

Number of children on roll 25

Name of provider Willow Tree Pre-School Committee

Date of previous inspection 1 March 2011

Telephone number 0208 8543695

Willow Tree Pre-school registered in 2004. It is located in Woolwich Common in the London Borough of Greenwich. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9.15am to 2.45pm, during term time. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. The pre-school employs six staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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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