

Wesley Preschool (Benfleet)

Hall Farm Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5WS



Inspection date

15 January 2016

Previous inspection date

8 December 2014

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

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Managers do not effectively monitor the effectiveness of teaching to swiftly tackle weaknesses in practice.
- Staff do not maximise opportunities to extend children's learning, particularly to develop their thinking and problem solving skills.
- Staff are not secure in using the assessment system to effectively plan for children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Effective key-person arrangements enable staff and parents to work together from the start to support children's well-being. Staff form good relationships with children.
- Children are polite and friendly. They share, take turns and show care and respect for each other.
- Parents have regular meetings with staff where they can talk about their child. They are provided with a broad range of information and materials to help extend play activities at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ improve the monitoring of practice to identify weaknesses and use effective supervisions to raise the quality of teaching	31/05/2016
■ develop planning further so that children are consistently provided with purposeful activities that are sufficiently challenging	31/05/2016
■ support staff to fully implement the assessment system, so that all are confident and consistently plan for children's learning and development	31/05/2016

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

- provide parents with further information so they are more aware of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the next steps in their child's learning.

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 pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and the chairperson of the pre-school committee.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as a range of children's records, planning and evaluation documentation, and the information exchanged with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorraine Meldrum Sunter

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The manager understands the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The staff team are well qualified. However, the rigour with which leaders check and review the quality of the provision is not secure. There are inconsistencies in some teaching practices, which are not fully identified through the monitoring and supervision arrangements in place. Early Years Pupil Premium funding is used effectively to support children who are not reaching expected levels of development to make faster progress. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of their role and responsibility in protecting children. They ensure they follow the appropriate policies and working procedures, including recruitment, to make sure children are safe and staff are suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff make regular observations of children's learning. An appropriate system is in place to monitor and assess children's progress. However, this is not used consistently by all staff, which results in some activities lacking purpose. Sufficient challenge is not always provided for more able children, who lose interest and move away. Most parents understand how their children's learning and progress are assessed. Some staff have effective teaching skills. They ask questions to make children think, such as, 'what colour will you make if you mix green and yellow?' and 'what will happen to the magnet when you use it under water? Children enjoy a range of activities. They are enthusiastic to learn what sinks and floats, experimenting with a variety of items. They learn about and explore space travel linked to current news topics.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

An effective key-person approach means that children's individual care needs are valued and respected. Staff employ a variety of suitable methods to support children in considering the needs and feelings of others. They support children's growing independence well. For example, children are encouraged to put on and take off their own coats and help themselves to healthy snacks and drinks. Staff promote children's health and well-being effectively. Children have free access to the outdoor area; they get lots of fresh air and exercise. Well-established routines help children build their self-confidence and self-care skills.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Most children are making typical progress in their learning and gaining some of the key skills they need in preparation for school. They are happy, busy, keen to learn and confident to explore the environment and engage with staff. Children have good relationships with each other and work respectfully and successfully together. Their concentration is good and they focus on their tasks well and with enjoyment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203614
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1025526
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	40
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Wesley Methodist Church (Benfleet) Committee
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2014
Telephone number	07592841634

Wesley Preschool (Benfleet) registered in 1997 and is run by a voluntary committee. It is registered on the Early Years Register. The pre-school takes place in a church hall in Benfleet, Essex. It operates from shared premises and there is an enclosed area available for outdoor play. The pre-school employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, three members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and seven members of staff hold an appropriate qualification at level 3. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.10am until 12.10pm, with a lunch club operating until 1pm on Mondays and Tuesdays. On Wednesdays and Fridays, the pre-school operates until 3pm. The lunch club closes at 12.45pm on a Thursday. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently 44 children attending who are in the early years age group. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. It supports a number of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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