

Park Hall Playgroup

Park Hall Playgroup, Falmouth Road, WALSALL, WS5 3EZ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

20 September 2016

9 November 2012

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		Inadequate	4
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Inadequate	4

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Ofsted has not been given details of members of the association responsible for the running of the playgroup. This means that appropriate checks have not been completed to ensure their suitability. Not all records are available for inspection. This compromises the welfare of children and the effective management of the provision.
- The safeguarding policy and procedures do not contain the correct information to enable staff or parents to report any concerns they may have about a child's welfare. Procedures for reporting allegations against staff are incorrect. Staff are not confident in the procedures they should follow if they have child protection concerns. This puts children at risk of harm.
- Staff do not make regular observations or accurate assessments of children's learning. The required progress check for children aged between two and three years has not been completed for all children. This means any gaps in learning are not identified or addressed.
- The quality of teaching is weak. Planning of activities to meet the interests and needs of the children is not focused and purposeful. Staff do not effectively support the children's progression in their learning and development.
- The use of supervision, self-evaluation and monitoring is not rigorous enough to help staff know their roles and responsibilities, target training needs and drive improvement.

It has the following strengths

- Staff speak to parents regularly about their child's care. Parents comment that they are happy with the service provided.
- Children have plenty of opportunities for fresh air and exercise in the outdoor area.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ provide Ofsted with the necessary information to enable them to carry out suitability checks on members of the association responsible for the playgroup	04/10/2016
■ ensure records are available and easily accessible for inspection, with specific reference to evidence of vetting and suitability checks for staff	04/10/2016
■ devise a safeguarding policy that includes correct, relevant information, so that staff and parents know how to raise concerns about a member of staff's practice or concerns about children's welfare	01/11/2016
■ ensure all staff receive safeguarding training to help them understand their roles and responsibilities regarding child protection	01/11/2016
■ effectively monitor teaching practices and provide support, coaching and training for all staff to ensure they have appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding to deliver quality learning experiences to children through effective teaching methods	01/11/2016
■ implement effective systems to observe, assess and monitor children's learning, and use this information to plan challenging and interesting experiences, with other professionals' support where required, to enable children to make at least good progress	01/11/2016
■ carry out a progress check for all children between the ages of two and three years; provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development in the prime areas and identify the child's strengths, and any areas where the child's progress is less than expected.	01/11/2016

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

- improve the self-evaluation processes to focus more precisely on identifying weaknesses and taking action to take to improve outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including children's learning journal records and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of a small amount of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Trisha Turney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Although staff are able to identify signs and symptoms of abuse, they are unsure of the procedures to follow if they do have concerns about children's welfare. The safeguarding policy is not sufficient as it does not include any guidance to follow in respect of reporting child protection concerns. Procedures for reporting allegations against staff are inaccurate. The manager's evaluation of the playgroup is overly optimistic and does not identify weaknesses in practice. This demonstrates a poor drive to continually improve the setting. Teaching and learning are not monitored sufficiently. Gaps in learning have not been identified and interventions, including working with other professionals, have not been put in place. Staff receive little supervision or coaching to improve their teaching skills. The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of association members. This means that the suitability of such persons has not been thoroughly assessed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Teaching does not meet children's needs. Observations are not carried out regularly and assessments are inconsistent. This means that there is a lack of accurate information that can be used to help children build on what they already know. Consequently, there is little evidence of how information from observations is used to plan and provide a suitable range of experiences for all children so that they make good progress. Staff speak kindly with the children. However, conversation is not used well to extend children's learning or to introduce new vocabulary, ideas or problem-solving skills. For example, staff tend to ask lots of questions without giving children time to answer. Children are, generally, happy and occupied. However, staff spend too long supervising children rather than engaging them in rich learning opportunities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in safeguarding policy and practice mean that children's well-being is not assured. Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been carried out for all staff. However, not all records to evidence that suitability and vetting procedures have been carried out were available at inspection. Gradual settling-in sessions help children feel emotionally secure in the playgroup. Children play well together. They develop good friendships and invite others to join their games. Children are developing physical skills and use their energy during outdoor play, using a variety of wheeled toys. Children's understanding of healthy eating and good hygiene is supported appropriately. Staff remind them to wash their hands and they enjoy their snack of fresh fruit.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Significant weakness in teaching means that children are not well supported to make sufficient progress in their learning and development. Children are not inspired to learn or practise their language skills and learn new vocabulary. Children demonstrate some confidence as they choose activities freely. They take responsibility for small tasks as they tidy away toys and resources. However, children are not developing all of the key skills necessary to help prepare them for the next stage of their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY408126
Local authority	Walsall
Inspection number	1059866
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Park Hall Community Association
Registered person unique reference number	RP517431
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2012
Telephone number	01922 628 627

Park Hall Playgroup was registered in 2010. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The playgroup opens on Monday and Friday from 9.30am until 12.30pm and Tuesday to Thursday from 9.30am until 2.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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