

Seal Village Pre-School

C/o Seal C of E Primary School, Zambra Way, Seal, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0DJ



Inspection date

16 September 2016

Previous inspection date

5 November 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 has not notified Ofsted of changes to committee members or provided them with required information to enable suitability checks to be carried out.
- Not all members of the committee have completed Disclosure and Barring Service checks as required. Records of these checks for committee members who have undertaken them do not contain all the required details.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to develop children's understanding of shape and size.
- Some staff do not support children's thinking skills effectively to help extend their learning further.

It has the following strengths

- Children feel safe and behave well. They understand and respond to the well-established routines. For example, they recognise and respond to the music for tidying up.
- Staff develop warm and sensitive relationships with children. Children form secure attachments to staff and feel at ease in their care.
- Staff clearly identify and plan for children's next steps in learning. Children make at least typical progress for their age from their individual starting points. They gain the skills they need for the next stage of their education.

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure Ofsted is provided with the necessary information about all committee members so that the required suitability checks can be carried out 	16/10/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure all members of the committee complete the required suitability checks, including an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, and that a record of the reference number, the date the disclosure was obtained and details of who obtained it is maintained and made available for inspection. 	16/10/2016

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

- make better use of opportunities to develop children's understanding of shape and size, as part of their mathematical development
- develop staff's knowledge of how to support children's thinking skills, to extend their learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability checks of all members of staff.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager and staff.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and with other members of staff.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and read the written comments of others to take account of their views.
- The inspector discussed the manager's view of the strengths and areas for development for the pre-school.

Inspector

Jill Thewlis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff know the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager provides regular meetings to support the staff and identifies relevant training opportunities for them to help develop their practice. Staff have good relationships with parents and involve them in their children's learning. For example, they encourage parents to contribute to their children's assessments. The manager and staff regularly evaluate their work and take the views of parents and children into account. However, some breaches in requirements are not quickly identified. The provider has not provided Ofsted with required information about new committee members. They have not ensured that all committee members have completed the required suitability checks. Records relating to suitability checks that are in place do not all have the required detail available for inspection.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular and accurate assessments of children's learning. They offer a mix of planned activities and those that children choose for themselves. Staff support children's language skills well. For example, children sing action songs with repetitive words. Children make good use of the comfortable cushions to sit and enjoy looking at their favourite books. They gain an understanding of positional language. For example, when using a computer game, children identify where the spider is hiding. Staff help children to develop their understanding of nature and the natural world. For example, they organise trips to visit the woodland. Children who have special educational needs are well supported. Staff work effectively with other professionals to meet their individual needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Ofsted has been unable to verify all committee members' suitability. However, the committee members do not have any unsupervised access to children and there is no negative impact on children's welfare. Children play together well and know how to take turns. For example, two children decided to make a 'bus' and happily took turns at being the 'driver'. Children are independent, easily choosing their own activities and toys. Staff teach children positive social skills, such as saying 'please' and 'thank you'. Children follow healthy practices. For instance, at mealtimes children know to wash their hands before eating. Children understand the differences between themselves and others. For example, staff provide a wide range of activities to celebrate diversity.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are prepared well for school. They learn to write their name, follow routines and to be independent. For example, children pour out their own milk from a jug and put on their own coats and wellingtons. During story time, children listen attentively and offer their views about the characters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY276356
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1061744
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	16
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Seal Village Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910847
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2013
Telephone number	01732 762 799

Seal Village Pre-School opened in 2004. It operates from premises located at Seal Church of England Primary School near Sevenoaks, Kent. There are five members of staff employed to work with the children. Of these, the manager has an early years degree, and two other members of staff have early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm during term time only.

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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