

Craven Arms Preschool

Craven Arms Community Centre, Newington Way, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 9PS



Inspection date

17 November 2016

Previous inspection date

10 May 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:

- Staff do not maintain accurate records of children's hours of attendance to support their welfare and ensure that they can be accounted for in the event of an emergency.
- The manager does not make sure that information about staff's suitability is fully documented and available for inspection. This includes the number, issue date and who obtained the Disclosure and Barring Service check.
- Arrangements for staff supervision and support are not yet effective in ensuring that all staff consistently achieve good quality teaching.
- Staff do not share all relevant information about children with other early years settings they attend, in order to support better continuity in their learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff consistently use skilful questioning with children. This helps the children to think and offers them challenge as they develop their communication and language skills.
- Staff implement the key-person system effectively. Flexible settling-in processes are in place, which are individual to the child's needs. This helps children to settle quickly and establish good bonds with their key person.

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 all required information relating to how the suitability of staff has been vetted is always available for inspection	08/12/2016
■ keep an accurate daily record of the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance.	08/12/2016

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

- strengthen information sharing with other early years settings children attend
- enhance staff supervision and support to make sure that all staff achieve good quality teaching practices.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of their responsibilities to report any child protection concerns. They work very well in partnership with local safeguarding agencies. Although the manager confirms that she completes suitability checks for all staff, she is not able to evidence that Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been carried out for all staff as required. The manager does not ensure that an accurate record of the hours of children's attendance is kept. Despite this, risk assessments are strong and effective and children play and learn in a safe environment. Regular supervision and appraisal meetings are carried out by the manager. Despite this, the quality of staff practice is not consistently good throughout the setting. Parents state that staff provide a very welcoming environment and their children are always keen to attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children independently choose from a good range of toys and resources to benefit their play. Staff plan a broad range of experiences and assess children's progress successfully. Staff make sure that activities are imaginative and creative. They skilfully adapt their teaching methods to keep all children engaged and interested regardless of their age and stage of development. Staff effectively promote children's communication and language skills. They engage in dialogue with the children as they sit close by and become involved in their play. Staff ask questions, such as, 'What do you think would happen if you add to that?' They watch, listen and respond well to children's individual needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The weaknesses in recording children's attendance and documenting evidence of staff's suitability do not fully support children's welfare. Staff gain sufficient information from parents when their children first start. This ensures that staff are aware of what children can do from the outset. Despite this, staff do not find out and share information with other early years settings that children attend. Children benefit greatly from regular opportunities to be physically active. The outdoor environment is used daily for children to explore and discover new experiences. They enjoy water play and exploring the hilly environment. Strategies to manage children's behaviour are consistently implemented by staff, who praise children for their achievements, helping them develop good self-esteem and confidence. Children work together at tidy-up time to clear the room in readiness for their snack.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff support children's independence and confidence well. They ask children to find their picture and name when they arrive and help them to self-register. Children quickly learn to recognise their name as they begin to understand that print carries meaning. These skills help children to be ready for their move on to school. Staff support children to recognise and respond to their own physical needs. Older children are able to easily take themselves to the toilet. Children confidently use the step to reach the sink and wash their hands.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224082
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1063759
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Craven Arms Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523066
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2013
Telephone number	07891 106339

Craven Arms Preschool was registered in 2001. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 5, or 6. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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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