

Great Holm Pre-School

87 Kensington Drive, Great Holm, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK8 9AY



Inspection date	4 January 2017
Previous inspection date	6 February 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 an accurate record of children's attendance, as required. For example, they do not record the times that children leave the setting.
- Not all staff take opportunities to extend children's mathematical development in their activities.
- Staff do not always provide, or help children to explore, objects and materials to extend their imagination and creativity. For example, in the role-play area, children have a limited amount of equipment to stimulate their imagination.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents and other settings children attend are good. Staff keep parents and professionals up to date on children's achievements and behaviour. Overall, all children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Recruitment procedures are effective and all staff undertake the required checks to ascertain their suitability to work with children.
- Staff have regular safeguarding training and all understand the possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm. They know what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare.
- Staff are offered suitable opportunities to extend their knowledge and skills. For example, some staff have achieved a food hygiene qualification and use this well to support the health and well-being of the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- ensure the daily record of attendance contains the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their actual hours of attendance 06/02/2017

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

- develop all staff's skills in knowing how to develop children's mathematical skills in their activities
- help children to explore a wider range of materials during their play to build on their first-hand experiences and use their imagination.

Inspection activities

- The inspection was carried out following Ofsted's risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed activities and learning experiences available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and observed practice with the registered provider.
- The inspector spoke to some parents about the provision and took account of their views.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The management team has implemented new, effective security procedures for children's arrival and departure, following an incident where a child was able to leave unsupervised. The management team has used self-evaluation to identify some weaknesses in the provision and has made some positive improvements to the pre-school since their takeover. For example, they have implemented supervision meetings, appraisals and peer-on-peer observations to enable staff to reflect on their practice. This has improved the quality of teaching and outcomes for children. However, they have failed to recognise that not all documentation required for the safe management of the provision is appropriately maintained.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff monitor children's development and regularly observe and track their progress. The management team checks the progress groups of children make and can show that children make good progress for their ages. Staff use what they know about children's interests and abilities to plan enjoyable activities. The activities help staff to build successfully on what children know and can do in most areas of their learning. Staff support children's communication and language development well, assisting those who find verbal communication more difficult.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children are happy and settled. However, staff do not keep accurate records of children's attendance, as required. This means that staff cannot easily ascertain, particularly in an emergency, who is present. Staff help children to learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, they remind children about the rules of the pre-school, and encourage them to run outside only. Staff encourage children's health and well-being. For example, all children enjoy free play outside, where they climb and explore on equipment. Staff encourage children's independence well.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children make good progress in their learning and develop the skills they need to prepare them well for their next stages of learning. For example, older children participate in worthwhile group times, which help to build on their knowledge of the world and help support their concentration skills. For example, children learn about planets and about the earth. Children who have special educational needs receive good support to help them achieve well. Children gain good communication and language skills. They are encouraged to share their news and learn to link sounds to letters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141778
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	1079961
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	26
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Great Holm PreSchool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP909354
Date of previous inspection	6 February 2013
Telephone number	01908 566459

Great Holm Pre-School registered in 1989. It is located in Great Holm, Milton Keynes. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 2.45pm, term time only. The pre-school also offers a breakfast club from 8.30am to 9.30am. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs seven staff and of these, four hold relevant qualifications at level 3. One member of staff holds a level 2 qualification. One member of staff is working towards a level 2 qualification.

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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