

# Meadow Brook Playcare

Meadow Children's Centre, Seaman Avenue, SAXMUNDHAM, Suffolk, IP17 1DZ



## Inspection date

3 May 2017

Previous inspection date

5 May 2015

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The management committee has not met the legal requirement to inform Ofsted of changes to those who make up the governing body so that all necessary checks can be completed.
- Younger children are not provided with sufficient opportunities to develop and practise their climbing skills.
- Staff do not fully support active learning for those children who prefer to play and learn outdoors.

### It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents are well established. Staff are committed to working together with parents and encourage them to remain actively involved in their children's learning, both in the nursery and at home. Parents value the caring, friendly and supportive nature of the manager and staff.
- Staff know children well. They talk confidently about where children are in their learning and development and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. Staff are confident to carry through their findings into planning. Children make good progress.
- Staff show genuine care and concern for the children. Children develop secure emotional attachments with staff. Staff know about children's home lives and talk to them about their family, enhancing their sense of belonging.

## 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:

	<b>Due Date</b>
■ provide Ofsted with the details of the governing body to enable suitability checks to be completed.	20/05/2017

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

- provide more opportunities for younger children to practise their physical skills
- focus more closely on consistently supporting those children who learn best from playing in the garden.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery management team, including the nominated person, the manager and the deputy manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery, policies and procedures, activity planning and records of children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement**

Ofsted has not been informed of changes to those who make up the governing body. However, management has carried out enhanced criminal record checks of all committee members as part of their own suitability checks. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand their responsibility to protect the children in their care. Staff supervisions and systems for evaluating the quality of the learning and development requirements contribute to the nursery's strive for excellence. Staff reflect on training they have attended and introduce what they have learnt into the nursery, enhancing the provision for children. Strong partnerships have been established with the host school and local primary schools. This helps to ensure that children are fully supported as they prepare for the next stage in their learning, such as moving into the Reception class.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

The quality of teaching is consistently good, supporting children to be motivated and enthusiastic to play and learn. Children enjoy their time here. However, sometimes staff miss opportunities to be led by the children's interests such as not allowing them to take play dough outdoors and not providing younger children with appropriate resources to climb when they show an interest in climbing. Staff respond well to the babbles and gestures of babies and use signing to support children's developing vocabulary. Staff engage older children in conversation and actively listen to what they have to say.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good**

Staff provide a welcoming learning environment in which children are secure and confident to express themselves. Children develop emotional security through their close attachments to their key person and other staff. In the absence of the key person there is another named adult to ensure that children's care and learning continues to be tailored to their individual needs. Children behave well. Staff talk to children in a calm and respectful manner, gently reminding them about the need to share. Staff in the setting have a positive approach to diversity and support children to develop a positive sense of themselves. They help children to learn about the wider world beyond their own experiences.

### **Outcomes for children are good**

All children make good progress from their starting points. Gaps in their learning are effectively identified and addressed. Children develop the key skills needed for school. They manage their personal hygiene relevant to their age. Children are beginning to recognise their first name when it is written and attempt to write recognisable letters. Younger children enjoy the sensory experience of making marks and explore textures such as jelly, water and natural materials.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY368195
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	1093318
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	48
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	87
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Meadow Brook Playcare Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP910388
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 May 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01728 604 768

Meadow Brook Playcare registered in 2008. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including three staff with a degree in early years. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. It 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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