

St Andrew's Pre-School

134 Brookway, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 4RE



Inspection date

10 May 2017

Previous inspection date

2 April 2014

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:

- Not all staff have a robust enough knowledge of their responsibilities under the Prevent duty guidance of 2015.
- The arrangements in place for the support, coaching and training of staff are not rigorous enough to help staff continually improve their practice.
- Not all staff are as effective as possible in helping children learn good speaking skills.
- The manager has not evaluated the provision with enough precision to make sure that all legal requirements are met and bring about continuous improvement.

It has the following strengths

- The manager and staff quickly act to secure additional support to promote the good progress of children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Partnerships with parents promote continuity in children's learning. Parents are provided with information on how they can contribute directly to their child's progress. Parents speak highly of the staff and of how well they meet their children's needs.

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 that all staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities under the Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2015. 10/06/2017

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

- improve the arrangements for supporting, coaching and training staff in order to help them build continually on their teaching skills and knowledge
- help staff to improve their support for children to develop their speaking skills
- implement robust systems to reflect on and evaluate practice, improving the quality of provision and ensuring that all legal requirements are met.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of practice indoors and outside and assessed the impact of this on children's learning and welfare.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and examined relevant documents, including evidence of checks on the suitability of those working in the pre-school.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation of teaching.
- The inspector spoke to two parents to gain their views and examined written evidence of parents' views of the pre-school.

Inspector

Jennifer Kennaugh

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff risk assess the premises and any outings they take children on to make sure hazards are minimised. The manager has a robust knowledge of safeguarding issues and of how to protect children from harm. That said, she has not made sure that staff have a similar level of knowledge. She has not made arrangements to update them on current practice and legislation about radicalisation and extreme views in a timely enough manner. However, she works directly with the children herself and numbers are low enough that she has a very good overview of each child's individual circumstances and can recognise when a child may be at risk. Staff monitor children's progress in detail to swiftly identify any gaps in learning and to implement strategies to narrow these. Partnerships with other professionals involved with children's learning and welfare are effective. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Children learn to enjoy books and use a range of resources to develop the skills needed before learning to write. Staff make effective use of activities to introduce learning about numbers, colours and shapes. Children enjoy singing and join in cheerfully with activities. Staff encourage children to recall past events, such as a visit to a farm. They help children to think about and remember what happened on their day out.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that not all staff are as well-equipped as possible to promote children's welfare in all circumstances. Having said that, staff are quick to teach children to take turns, share resources and to use good manners. They promote children's independence effectively and help them to gain the skills needed for school. Staff praise children to help motivate them further. Well-established practices help staff promote children's good health. Children form secure emotional attachments with staff and this helps support their readiness to learn. Staff provide opportunities for children to learn about events and festivals celebrated by those not in their immediate community or family.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and are ready for school when the time comes. They are confident and motivated learners. Children learn how to manage their hygiene needs and they gain a good knowledge of the types of food that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy outdoor activities and take small, well-managed risks to test their coordination. Children manage their feelings and behaviour very well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301698
Local authority	Blackburn
Inspection number	1087741
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	20
Number of children on roll	10
Name of registered person	St Andrews Pre-School (Blackburn) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP524692
Date of previous inspection	2 April 2014
Telephone number	07525 270601

St. Andrew's Pre-School registered in 1992 and operates from 9am until midday on weekdays during term times. The pre-school employs three staff, all of whom have relevant qualifications at level 2 or 3. 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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