

Thurlton Pre School

Norton & Thurlton Village Hall, Beccles Road, Loddon, NORWICH, NR14 6JQ



Inspection date

6 June 2017

Previous inspection date

24 March 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		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 leadership team has not provided Ofsted with the required information so that suitability checks can be completed for all members of the management committee.
- The manager does not provide sharply targeted support and guidance to her staff to help them to achieve teaching skills of the highest possible quality.
- Sometimes, staff do not give children sufficient time to think and use their reasoning skills. They ask children questions as they play but do not always wait for a reply.

It has the following strengths

- Staff work closely in partnership with parents. They regularly share information about children's learning in the pre-school and at home. Parents value this exchange of information and comment positively about children's good progress.
- Staff teach children to respect one another and to abide by the rules and boundaries. Staff model good behaviour. They are kind, polite and show children that rules are set for all, including adults, to keep everyone safe.
- Staff build secure relationships with children, helping those who are less confident to quickly settle into the pre-school. Children confidently talk to staff about life outside of the pre-school. Staff show that they are interested, helping children to feel valued.
- Children develop good social skills as they play alongside their friends. They share resources and consider each other's suggestions and ideas to develop their play further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- provide Ofsted with the required information so that checks can be completed to confirm the suitability of all members of the management committee. 06/07/2017

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

- target the support and guidance given to staff more precisely to help them develop the quality of their teaching and children's learning to the highest possible level
- enhance teaching skills, providing children with more opportunities to reflect, work out their responses to questions and develop their thinking skills.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Julie Meredith-Jenkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The management committee has not provided Ofsted with the required information to enable all necessary suitability checks to be completed on all of its members. However, Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been carried out on these individuals and they do not have unsupervised access to the children. The recruitment of staff is rigorous to ensure they are suitable to work with children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know the procedures they must follow if they have concerns about children's welfare. The manager supports staff to access training and obtain childcare qualifications. However, she does not yet place a sharp focus on helping staff to develop teaching skills of the highest possible quality. The manager reflects on the service provided for children and reviews their progress in the pre-school. This helps her to identify where the provision can be improved to promote children's continued development further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff respond well to children's interests and plan the learning environment so that children are engaged and motivated to learn. Staff know the children well and complete regular assessments of their capabilities. These help staff to ensure that they provide experiences for children which are tailored to their needs. Staff join in with children's play and talk to them about what they are doing. However, sometimes, their questioning is not fully effective in encouraging children to think critically. Children freely access resources to use independently. For example, they make use of scissors and tape as they play creatively. Children have a wide range of opportunities to write and make marks, such as using chalks to draw on stones.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The identified weakness in leadership and management has the potential to affect children's welfare. However, staff remain vigilant and keep children safe. Ongoing checks are made of the pre-school to ensure the safety of the premises. Children's good health is promoted. They have regular opportunities to play in the fresh air and are encouraged to eat a balanced diet. They serve themselves with a healthy snack and make healthy choices at lunchtime. Children are encouraged to be independent and have a go at small tasks for themselves. Older children are competent in self-care. Staff support younger children according to their abilities to help them to become increasingly independent.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning. They quickly develop in confidence and are eager to learn. They show determination and perseverance to learn new skills, such as when using tweezers to pick up objects. They enjoy exploring and playing imaginatively. Children are prepared well for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254321
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1090382
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Thurlton Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910420
Date of previous inspection	24 March 2015
Telephone number	01508 548 342

Thurlton Pre School registered in 1992. The pre-school employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The pre-school opens Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3.30pm. 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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