

The Park Playgroup

Old Trafford Youth Centre, St Hildas Road, Manchester, M16 9PQ



Inspection date	13 June 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 provider has failed to notify Ofsted of a change of manager at the playgroup.
- Leaders do not always ensure that personal information relating to the specific needs and allergies of children is stored appropriately to maintain their privacy.
- Staff do not always organise large-group activities as well as possible to engage the interests of all children and support their learning further.
- Self-evaluation is not used well enough to identify breaches in legal requirements and does not consistently include the views of parents to drive forward improvements.
- Staff are not helped to develop some areas of their expertise to improve children's outcomes even further.

It has the following strengths

- Overall, teaching is good and children make good progress. The environment is well planned to meet the needs of all ages. Children choose from a range of high-quality toys. This helps to motivate them and contributes towards their independence.
- Partnerships with external professionals are very effective. Staff seek external support if required. They work together to provide effective support in order to meet the individual needs of all children. This helps to assist children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and who speak English as an additional language.
- The key-person system is strong. Children are confident, happy and secure. Home visits help children to develop a special relationships with enthusiastic and caring staff.

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
■ improve understanding of changes that must be notified to Ofsted	13/07/2017
■ ensure that information is handled confidentially in order to protect children's privacy.	13/07/2017

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

- improve organisation of large-group activities to engage all children more effectively and further develop their interest and learning
- implement a more rigorous and effective system for self-evaluation and use parents' feedback in order to drive forward improvements
- support staff to develop their expertise in helping to improve children's experiences, in order to aid their learning even further.

Inspection activities

- Ofsted carried out the inspection as a result of a risk assessment following information received about this provider
- The inspector toured all areas of the playgroup. She observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held ongoing discussions and carried out an evaluation of teaching with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She took account of the views of parents through discussions and written feedback obtained prior to inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as policies, procedures and children's records, reviewed the nursery's self-evaluation and checked evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector
Layla Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider did not notify Ofsted of changes to the manager. However, the manager was previously the deputy, and the provider did ensure that suitability checks were undertaken and that children were not put at risk. Staff suitability is thoroughly checked and staff who have not been vetted do not have unsupervised contact with children. This helps to protect their safety. Staff receive support and training which generally helps to improve their knowledge and skills. However, they are not always supported to develop some areas of their expertise to improve children's outcomes even further. Self-evaluation systems fail to identify weaknesses and do not consistently use feedback from parents. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff are trained in child protection policies and procedures, and know what to do if they have concerns about a child or a member of staff. Staff who hold paediatric first-aid qualifications are deployed effectively and a first-aid kit is taken on outings. This helps to protect children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and generally provide a variety of interesting learning opportunities. Staff share observations and accurate assessments with parents and help them to support children's learning at home. Bilingual staff encourage children to communicate in their home language and English. This helps to support their communication skills. Two-year-old children develop good levels of concentration. They skilfully use squeezers to transfer water and fill containers. Older children enjoy small-group activities. Staff encourage them to wash chocolate mud off toy animals following on from a favourite story. Staff capably extend children's learning and teach them about health and hygiene. Children excitedly repeat the familiar 'wishy washy' phrases as they clean the animals. However, larger group activities do not always hold all children's interests.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Although some personal and confidential information relating to children is displayed and does not fully protect their privacy, this does not have a significant impact on children's safety and welfare. Children benefit from regular outdoor play and brush their teeth each day. They receive a healthy range of snacks and staff cater for any specific dietary requirements. This contributes towards children's physical health and well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and curious learners. They develop strong mathematical skills and capably compare the weight of water and mud using scales. Behaviour is good. Children develop good relationships with others and communicate well. All children, including those in receipt of additional funding, make good progress in relation to their skills on entry. They are prepared well for future learning and older children are ready for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489424
Local authority	Trafford
Inspection number	1098992
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 - 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Jill Carding
Registered person unique reference number	RP910629
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07516697365

The Park Playgroup was registered in 2015 and is situated in the Old Trafford area of Manchester. The playgroup employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 12.30pm. The playgroup 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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