

Vicarage Road Playgroup

Abram Community Centre, Vicarage Road, Abram, WIGAN, Lancashire, WN2 5QX



Inspection date

14 June 2017

Previous inspection date

18 March 2016

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 manager does not adhere to the required adult to child ratios or staff qualification requirements at all times.
- The manager and staff do not effectively recognise potential hazards and minimise risks to children's safety, particularly in the outdoor area.
- The manager and staff do not have a secure knowledge and understanding of the Prevent duty guidance.
- Staff do not encourage parents effectively to contribute to their child's ongoing learning, to provide a more consistent approach to their learning and development.
- On occasions, staff do not give clear explanations to children about why it is important to carry out good hygiene procedures to help support their understanding of staying healthy.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use a good system to observe, identify children's next steps and plan for their learning. The manager monitors and assesses the development of all children, including those in receipt of additional funding.
- Overall, the manager can identify strengths and weaknesses to drive improvement in the playgroup. Staff evaluate their environment and reflect on the resources on offer for children. They use what they know to support children's interests, which keeps them motivated to play and learn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure required staff-to-child ratios and staff qualification requirements are adhered to at all times, so children are adequately safeguarded and their learning and well-being needs met 	21/06/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that all risks and potential hazards are identified, removed or minimised 	21/06/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve staff knowledge and understanding of prevent duty to safeguard children more effectively. 	21/06/2017

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

- develop engagement with all parents in their children's ongoing learning and assessment
- build on children's understanding about why carrying out good hygiene procedures is important so they know how to keep themselves healthy.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment process, following information received by Ofsted.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning and enjoyment.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager who is also the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector took the views of parents into account during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection at appropriate times and took account of their views.

Inspector
Kellie Lever

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures staff have a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare. However, they are not as secure in their knowledge about the Prevent duty guidance. Overall, the manager and staff assess risks for children regularly indoors. However, their risk assessments are less effective outdoors. For example, they have not recognised the additional external fencing has gaps and damaged resources are not disposed of. However, the manager and staff rectified these hazards and removed them immediately once identified. Generally, the manager deploys staff to supervise children and meet their care and learning needs well. The manager does not meet the required staff-to-child ratios and staff qualifications at all times. However, this is an isolated incident and is not a regular occurrence. The manager is pro-active and has already put things in place to prevent such things from happening again. The manager provides staff with supervision sessions, and they have daily discussions to help develop their practice and identify any further training needs to benefit children. Staff observe and assess children's progress and share this with parents. However, they do encourage all parents to share what their children can do at home to help provide a consistent approach to their child's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have fun and eagerly explore the environment with interest. They make independent choices, such as where they want to play and what they would like to do. Staff promote children's mathematical skills well. One example of this is that staff encourage them to compare the lengths of worms found in the garden using language, such as longer and shorter. Staff extend children's learning as they encourage children to search for different creatures with magnifying glasses and explore the natural world around them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

There are weaknesses in leadership and management. However, the breaches do not have a significant impact on children's safety and well-being. Staff have secure relationships with children and support their emotional needs. Children have sufficient opportunities to move around in the fresh air and to develop their physical skills as they walk and balance on large apparatus. They carry out suitable hygiene procedures, such as hand washing and tooth brushing. However, staff miss opportunities to enhance children's understanding of the importance of these routines to help extend their knowledge about keeping themselves healthy.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and develop key skills in readiness for school. Younger and older children play well together and develop confidence in social situations. They are inquisitive and assertively operate audio equipment to listen to stories that they follow in a book. Children's language and literacy is developing well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477601
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1100092
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Sian Pilling
Registered person unique reference number	RP908710
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2016
Telephone number	

Vicarage Road Playgroup registered in 2014. The playgroup employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications, one staff at level 3 and one staff at level 4. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are available from 9am until midday, 12.30pm until 3.30pm and 9am until 3.30pm. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free 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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