

Armitage Preschool

Armitage With Handsacre Village Hall, Shropshire Brook Road, Armitage, RUGELEY,
Staffordshire, WS15 4UZ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

23 June 2017

6 March 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:

- The provider has failed to provide Ofsted with the information required to check the suitability of all members of the committee.
- Occasionally, staff do not share the progress check for children aged between two and three years with parents in time for them to discuss this information with other professionals, such as health visitors.
- At times, staff do not sufficiently encourage children to make choices in their play and help them to think for themselves.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use additional funding that the pre-school receives for children effectively to help accelerate their learning. For example, they have arranged sessions with a dance teacher to help enhance children's personal, social and emotional development.
- Staff use skills gained from training to help them complete detailed ongoing assessments of children's learning. They observe, assess and plan for children's learning to help provide a varied curriculum that supports children's good progress.
- Since the last inspection, staff have developed opportunities for children to grow and care for living things, such as plants outside. They have enhanced children's level of concentration at whole-group times and adapted teaching to help all children take part.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff teach children how to follow rules. Children are kind to each other and they share toys and take turns.

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 necessary information required to check the suitability of all members of the committee. 23/09/2017

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

- strengthen partnership working with parents and other professionals and complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years in a timely manner
- provide more opportunities for children to make choices in their play and help them to think for themselves.

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 with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke with committee members. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection, viewed their written feedback and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider has failed to provide Ofsted with the necessary information needed to check the suitability of all committee members. However, the impact on children is minimised because committee members do not have any unsupervised contact with children and all hold an enhanced Disclosure and Barring check. All staff, including the manager, know how to report child protection concerns. Safeguarding is effective. The manager effectively monitors staff practice and reviews their training needs, helping to improve teaching. Staff complete a detailed progress check for all children aged between two and three years. However, staff do not always share the progress check promptly with parents. This means not all parents can share the information with other professionals, such as health visitors, for the health and development review at two years.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff closely monitor the progress of individual children and the manager reviews all progress to maintain an overview. They quickly identify any children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and work hard to help them make good progress. Teaching is strong and occasionally some teaching is outstanding. Staff are skilled at promoting all areas of children's development to help prepare them for school. For example, children count each of their 10 fingers as they paint them. They listen carefully to instructions about how to create a crab picture using their hands. Children develop good early writing skills. Staff encourage them to make marks using paintbrushes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety and welfare are not fully promoted. Children's engagement and motivation are generally good. However, sometimes staff do not extend children's choices during creative activities. They do not consistently support them to choose what they would like to play with during child-led times. Some children do not engage quickly in play during this time. Staff effectively promote children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy coming to pre-school. They have strong bonds with their key person.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and acquire the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, including their move on to school. Older children have positive attitudes about starting school. For example, they enthusiastically talk about what school will be like as they try on items of uniform and look at photographs of the school building. Children have good physical skills, including throwing a ball and balancing across beams. They play alongside other children to develop their ideas. For instance, a group of children work together to develop their imaginative ideas and find different colour blocks to make a pretend swimming pool.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218087
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1087650
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	33
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Armitage Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901842
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2014
Telephone number	07855 721 858

Armitage Preschool registered in 1995. It is managed by a committee. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one is a qualified teacher. The pre-school opens Monday and Friday from 9.45am to 2.45pm and Tuesday to Thursday from 9.45am to 12.45pm, term time only. It receives funding to provide 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

