

# Bancroft Pre-school

Small Meeting Place, 29 Hadrians Drive, Bancroft, Milton Keynes, MK13 0QB



## Inspection date

3 October 2017

Previous inspection date

20 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 started processes but not fully completed the requirement to inform Ofsted of changes to committee. Therefore, Ofsted has been unable to carry out all the required checks to determine the committee members' suitability for their role. This is also a breach of the requirements of the Childcare Register. However, this breach does not have a significant impact on children's welfare.
- The monitoring of staff performance is not fully embedded to ensure more targeted high-quality supervision.
- Staff do not build effective relationships with professionals at other settings children attend to share relevant information to support a consistent approach to children's learning.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn and develop. They teach children a wide range of skills and interact positively with them while they play. Children make consistently good progress in all areas of learning.
- Children form warm relationships with the staff who care for them each day. Staff help children to develop strong bonds, forging partnerships with parents and promoting children's emotional well-being.
- There is effective and targeted support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

## 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

- ensure the required procedures are followed to enable Ofsted to check the suitability of all committee members. 04/11/2017

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

- build on the good systems introduced for performance management and how staff are monitored to develop their skills, further enrich practice and improve outcomes for children
- build on relationships with professionals at other settings children attend to provide continuity in their learning.

## 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 completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the chair of the committee. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with a small number of parents on the day of the inspection and took account of their views.

## Inspector

Amanda Perkin

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement**

The manager evaluates the provision to drive improvements, taking into account the views of parents, staff and children. She regularly checks children's progress and the quality of staff interactions. The manager uses this information to ensure outcomes for children are good and to address areas where children make weaker progress. For example, she has improved opportunities for children to gain early reading and writing skills. The provider has not ensured that Ofsted has been provided with the required information to complete all committee members' suitability checks fully. However, the committee members do not have unsupervised contact with children and they have had Disclosure and Barring Service checks. Therefore, there is no risk to children's welfare. The manager ensures there are robust checks to establish the suitability of staff working directly with the children. Staff attend training in safeguarding and have a good knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have a child protection concern. Safeguarding is effective.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

Staff know their key children well. Once children settle, staff make regular checks on children's progress to help them plan how to support their individual learning needs. High priority is given to teaching all children to develop their listening and speaking skills, their social skills and their interest in mathematics. Staff use their skills and experience to very good effect. They engage children well and enhance the possibilities for learning as they skilfully shape children's self-chosen play. For example, they model mathematical language as children play with dough and sand. They add commentary and ask effective questions that help children to think and extend their ideas.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement**

The weakness in leadership and management means that there is a breach of the requirements of the Childcare Register. However, this breach does not have a significant impact on children's welfare. Children demonstrate that they feel confident and happy in the pre-school. Staff plan good opportunities for children to spend time in the fresh air, as part of supporting their health and well-being. For example, children enjoy spending time in the mud kitchen and the garden area where they plant and grow vegetables. Key persons work closely with parents to help children settle and feel secure. Staff teach children to follow healthy lifestyles and to stay safe. For example, all staff have attended oral health training, supported by a national campaign. Staff help children to become independent and follow good hygiene practices.

### **Outcomes for children are good**

All children make good progress. They learn a good range of skills that prepares them for their future, including school. Children are confident communicators. For example, at 'story time' they express their ideas in front of an audience of their friends. Older children recognise shapes, count, solve problems and link sounds to letters.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	141812
<b>Local authority</b>	Milton Keynes
<b>Inspection number</b>	1068522
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	44
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Bancroft Playgroup Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP909832
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	20 March 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01908 322502 or 07761 802393

Bancroft Pre-school registered in 1985. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school opens on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 3.15pm, and on Monday from midday until 3.15pm. It opens during term time only. Children can have the option to stay for lunch and undertake a full day. The pre-school employs eight staff, six of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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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