

Appleton Under Fives St Bede's Pre-School

The Guild Hall, Appleton Village, Widnes, Halton, WA8 6EL



Inspection date

1 November 2017

Previous inspection date

27 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		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Leaders have not embedded effective supervision procedures to oversee and improve the overall quality of practice.
- Teaching does not always reflect children's individual needs and learning styles. This means that some children lose interest in activities or do not demonstrate motivation and engagement.
- Staff do not make effective use of the learning opportunities for those children who prefer to be outdoors.

It has the following strengths

- Leaders aspire to provide a better-quality provision. They have recently started to work very closely with the local authority to engage in self-evaluation.
- Staff have built positive relationships with children. Children feel secure and welcome. They know who to approach if they need help or feel upset. The arrangements to support children as they prepare to move on to school are effective.
- Staff understand the importance of working in partnership with parents and other providers. They have started to share information with parents and involve them in assessment more regularly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ implement effective supervision and targeted professional development that improves the quality of practice	13/12/2017
■ ensure that teaching consistently reflects the different ways that children learn.	27/12/2017

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

- improve the learning opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childcare purposes.
- The inspector met with parents to discuss their views of the pre-school.
- The inspector met with the leadership team. She discussed and reviewed relevant documentation including evidence of staff qualifications and suitability.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection. She observed activities and play in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector jointly evaluated the quality of teaching with the manager.

Inspector

Lauren Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The leadership team has made good use of their links with the local authority to begin self-evaluation processes and identify targets for improvement. Staff are suitably qualified and experienced. However, the arrangements for supervision are not effective. Leaders have introduced robust monitoring systems to review children's progress and development. This enables them to quickly identify areas in, which children require further support. Parents provide positive feedback about the staff team and the opportunities to review and contribute to children's learning records. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are secure in their knowledge of how to report concerns relating to children's welfare or the conduct of an adult.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Teaching does not always reflect the needs of individual children. Sometimes, children lose interest in activities as staff do not make good enough use of what they know about how children learn, to engage them effectively. However, they conduct accurate assessments of children's current developmental stage, and provide appropriate learning experiences that cover all areas of learning. Children explore with their senses, for example. Their early mathematical development is appropriately supported as they count measures of flour into a bowl, to make play dough. Younger children's physical development and co-ordination is extended as they dance to music, and roll balls of play dough in their hands in different ways.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff do not make effective use of planned and spontaneous teaching opportunities in the outdoor area. However, children engage in physical play and exercise in the outdoor area. For example, they balance on large balls and use these to hop across the garden. Staff encourage children to follow basic hygiene routines to minimise the risk of cross-contamination. Children develop independence. For example, they freely access waterproof clothing as they move between, the indoor and outdoor areas. Children enjoy a healthy snack menu. They have opportunities to help prepare snack for themselves. Staff use risk assessment effectively to remove or minimise potential hazards.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children develop some of the basic skills required to help them as they prepare to move on to school. They use good manners and display appropriate social skills. Staff encourage children to be patient and take turns. Children develop a basic understanding of early literacy. For example, staff repeat letter sounds as children try to identify their tray to store their artwork. Children who require additional support benefit from consistent partnership working between staff and external agencies. Children who are not achieving expected developmental milestones have been identified and staff are providing targeted support to address these concerns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303482
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	1090569
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	St Bedes Pre School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907805
Date of previous inspection	27 March 2015
Telephone number	0151 495 2749

Appleton Under Fives St Bede's Pre-School registered in 1998. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level two and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday in term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.15pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Tuesdays, sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am. 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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