

Playdays Pre-school

Methodist Church Hall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset, TA20 1QA



Inspection date	19 January 2018
Previous inspection date	22 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of all committee members, as required, meaning most are unknown to Ofsted. Ofsted has not been able to complete the necessary suitability checks. Most committee members do not have a Disclosure and Barring Service check, as required, and for those that do the records are not available for inspection. This does not safeguard children's welfare.
- The manager does not use self-evaluation well enough to target improvements that improve children's welfare and help to extend the quality of teaching further.
- Opportunities for children to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others are limited. As a result, children are not developing a good understanding of the wider world.

It has the following strengths

- An established key-person system ensures all children are emotionally secure and well prepared for their next stages in learning. Children enjoy their time at pre-school. They arrive happy and confidently settle into activities of their choice.
- Staff work together effectively to meet children's individual needs and support them to make good developmental progress.

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"> ■ provide Ofsted with the details of all committee members, so that appropriate checks can be completed to determine their suitability 	16/02/2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that all members of the committee have appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service checks in place, and keep a record of the reference number, date the check was obtained, the details of who obtained it and have them available for inspection. 	16/02/2018

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

- develop self-evaluation procedures to identify more-precise areas for development that will improve children's welfare and help raise the quality of teaching even further
- provide a wider range of activities and experiences to help children learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others in their own communities and in the wider world.

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 to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager. She discussed the strengths of staff teaching as well as areas for future development.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and committee chairperson. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan Wilson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Children's welfare is compromised, which places them at significant risk. The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of the majority of its committee members, and many of them do not have the required Disclosure and Barring Service check. Between them, they make managerial decisions about the setting and have an active role in recruiting staff. Not all records for those committee members that do have a Disclosure and Barring Service check are available for inspection. However, the manager and staff have attended child protection training. They know the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and to whom they must report concerns. The manager deploys staff effectively and ensures they meet required ratios at all times. The manager provides ongoing support for staff through supervision. She supports them appropriately to attend training to develop new skills and practices.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff implement an effective system to assess children's learning. They obtain information from parents at the start about what their children know and can do. Staff get to know children's interests well and plan activities to help support their next steps in learning and monitor progress to ensure they quickly identify and close any gaps in learning. Staff share assessments of children's learning with parents to help keep them well informed of their children's progress. Staff support children's emerging literacy skills well. For example, children enjoy looking at books and listening to stories with staff. Children help turn the pages and comment on what they see. This helps to promote reading and an early appreciation of books. Staff members are motivated and keen to support children's learning. They interact purposefully, joining in with their play and providing effective support where necessary. The manager and staff work closely with other professionals when needed. This particularly supports children who have special educational needs (SEN).

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management do not safeguard children's welfare. However, staff are positive role models who treat the children with kindness and respect. Children have daily access to outdoor play, where they have opportunities to challenge their physical skills. For example, they practise balancing and climbing on equipment. Staff support children to develop social skills. For example, mealtimes are sociable and staff encourage children to engage in conversation with each other. This helps children to form friendships.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident learners. They make good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who have only been attending for a relatively short period. They listen and respond well to instructions. Children learn to follow simple rules and know what staff expect of them. For example, children tidy away toys after playing. Children are developing the skills and knowledge they need for their future learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142945
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1070339
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Chard Methodist Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522347
Date of previous inspection	22 October 2014
Telephone number	07836672729 or 01460 67855

Playdays Pre-school registered in 1992. It operates from the Methodist church hall in Chard, Somerset. The pre-school is open during school term time on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am to 3pm, including a lunch club. There are five members of staff, four of whom hold early years qualifications. Of these, one has a qualification at level 5, two at level 3 and one at level 2.

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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