

Skelmanthorpe Community Pre-School Playgroup



Skelmanthorpe First & Nursery School, Elm Street, Skelmanthorpe, HUDDERSFIELD,
HD8 9DZ

Inspection date	7 February 2018
Previous inspection date	15 December 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 new committee members and provide the necessary information to enable Ofsted to determine their suitability. They have also failed to correctly notify Ofsted of a significant event.
- Children are not safeguarded. Systems for recruiting staff and determining their suitability are not rigorous. Some staff have a poor understanding of child protection issues, and safeguarding policies and procedures do not cover the use of cameras.
- Certain records are not maintained adequately.

It has the following strengths

- Children develop good levels of independence and are able to make choices during care routines and as they play. Staff create a stimulating environment.
- Staff plan a good range of activities and their enthusiasm and good-quality interaction enhance children's enjoyment. This contributes to the good progress children make. Staff work closely with parents to meet children's care and learning needs.
- Children develop essential early social skills through staff's good role modelling.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure that Ofsted is provided with the necessary information to enable the suitability of committee members to be determined	21/02/2018
■ implement rigorous procedures for the recruitment and vetting of staff and any other person who is likely to have regular contact with children, to establish their suitability for their roles	21/02/2018
■ ensure that all staff are trained to gain and maintain a secure knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding policy and procedures	07/03/2018
■ ensure that the safeguarding policy includes the use of cameras in the setting	21/02/2018
■ ensure that the daily record of the names of the children being cared for on the premises consistently includes their exact hours of attendance and the names of each child's key person	21/02/2018
■ ensure information is consistently recorded about the identity checks and vetting processes completed on staff and any other person who is likely to have regular contact with children, including criminal records disclosure reference numbers and the date of issue	21/02/2018
■ keep a record of the name, home address and telephone number of the provider.	21/02/2018

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She also spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of those working in the playgroup.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager, who is also the nominated person for the organisation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at various documents, including policies and procedures, and sampled children's online records of learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Rachel Ayo

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The leadership and management of the playgroup are weak and there are insufficient systems for checking the quality of the provision. This results in breaches in statutory requirements. As part of this, the provider has failed to ensure that Ofsted received notification of a child briefly exiting the playgroup's outdoor area. This occurred while other children were being collected. Consequently, Ofsted was unable to risk assess this information and decide what, if any, action to take. That said, the provider took swift action after the incident, improving risk assessments to prevent a recurrence. The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Ofsted has been unable to determine the suitability of new committee members, who are strongly involved in decision making. This is because the necessary information has not been submitted to Ofsted. Details of the committee members are not maintained, including any evidence of vetting. There are poor procedures for recruiting new staff, particularly those known to the manager. The provider does not undertake adequate checks on new staff or volunteers vetted by other organisations. Nor do they consistently record details relating to the suitability checks carried out by themselves. The child protection policy does not include the use of cameras. This is very pertinent to the playgroup. They have recently introduced online records of learning, which involves the use of tablet computers to take photographs. Some staff are unable to identify possible signs of abuse or neglect, including when children may be at risk of harm from extreme behaviours and views.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know their key children well. They plan around children's interests and their next steps for learning; these are informed by accurate observation and assessment which parents are successfully involved in. Staff's qualifications have a positive impact on teaching. Management continually observe and feed back on staff's teaching while working directly in the playgroup. More formal supervision meetings and peer observations have recently been introduced. This is helping the manager to monitor staff's performance and target further training more precisely. Staff extend children's learning well; for instance, through modelling and asking questions. They sensitively support younger children as they learn new skills, such as using scissors. This helps them to achieve what they set out to do and persevere.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety and welfare are not fully assured. Furthermore, the provider does not always keep an accurate record of children's hours of attendance or include the details of staff in the daily attendance record. This means that in an emergency situation it is not clear who needs to be accounted for. In addition, the provider cannot confirm that adult-to-child ratios are adhered to at all times. That said, children enter the playgroup happily and settle quickly. There are good procedures in place to make sure they establish secure attachments with staff. Staff display family photographs and home news, for example, helping to develop children's sense of belonging and reinforcing the positive links with parents. Children have good

access to the outdoors and enjoy healthy snacks. Where children attend other settings, staff share information appropriately and make sure children cope well with any changes.

Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well and are acquiring key skills in readiness for nursery and, ultimately, school. They confidently explore, showing good levels of interest. Children are keen and motivated learners, maintaining focus well during activities. Children delight in testing out their ideas, for example, when making dough muffins. They delight in counting how many muffins they have, demonstrating early mathematical skills. The oldest, most able children readily find their name on arrival and learn to recognise the letters while skilfully using the computer. Children behave well and play collaboratively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311308
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	1103596
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	26
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Skelmanthorpe Community Playgroup
Registered person unique reference number	RP523045
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2014
Telephone number	07812846813

Skelmanthorpe Community Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1993. The playgroup employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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