

Kennet Valley Pre-School

Holybrook Centre, Carters Rise, Fords Farm, Calcot, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 7YT



Inspection date

30 April 2018

Previous inspection date

3 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Inadequate	4
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Inadequate	4

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Leaders have failed to complete the necessary notifications to Ofsted regarding changes to the committee. This means Ofsted has been unable to carry out all the required checks to determine the committee members' suitability for their role.
- Staff do not consistently use the information gained from assessments to plan precisely for children's next steps in learning, to more rapidly improve outcomes for children.
- Leaders do not effectively support professional development of staff and current self-evaluation systems are not robust enough to monitor the quality of teaching. This means they do not identify and address key weaknesses in practice and the quality of the provision has not improved to a good standard.
- While leaders generally monitor the achievements of individual children, they do not identify the progress made by specific groups of children to raise all children's development to a good level.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are warm and caring, and children form good relationships with them. Staff offer a good amount of praise and encouragement.
- Staff take appropriate steps to support children who speak English as an additional language, including working closely with parents and other providers.
- Staff have secure relationships with parents. Parents have opportunities to share their views and opinions. They are happy with the care their children receive.

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 the required procedures are followed to enable Ofsted to check the suitability of all committee members	11/05/2018
■ improve the use of assessments to help plan even more precisely for children's next steps in their development so that all children's learning is promoted to the highest possible level	11/05/2018
■ take action to identify weaknesses in teaching and provide staff with targeted professional development opportunities to ensure children receive effective support and good-quality learning experiences.	11/05/2018

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

- monitor the outcomes of the different groups of children more precisely and address any differences in achievement more effectively
- review the systems used to foster continuous improvements and make sure that self-evaluation identifies and addresses key weaknesses, priorities and targets for improvement based on rigorous monitoring of practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main base room and garden.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including planning and a selection of the setting's policies and children's records.
- The inspector held meetings with the two joint managers and the chairperson of the committee. She spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Anneliese Fox-Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Leaders and management have not made enough improvements since their last inspection to raise and maintain the quality of the provision. The monitoring and supervision of staff's teaching practice is not effective and opportunities are sometimes missed to extend children's learning. The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to the management committee, so that the required suitability checks can be carried out. Committee members do not work directly with the children and so the impact on children's safety is minimised. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and staff have a suitable knowledge of how to identify and report any safeguarding concerns they have in a timely way. There are suitable procedures for the recruitment and induction of new staff to help ensure the suitability of adults working with children. Leaders are keen to improve the service to children and families, and seek additional training. Staff are eager to further improve the outside play space to ensure all areas of learning are available.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Staff do not ensure that they meet children's individual learning needs consistently because they do not always ensure children are suitably challenged enough in their learning. Staff carry out observations and assessments of children's learning. However, they do not use this information well and children do not always benefit from targeted support from staff. This means not all children make consistently good progress. In addition, leaders do not sharply focus on reviewing the progress made by specific groups of children, to monitor that any emerging gaps in learning are closing as quickly as possible. Nonetheless, staff know about children's interests and use them to provide enjoyable activities. Staff support children to develop their independence in making choices from the resources available. They encourage all children to develop their literacy skills and promote small-muscle control so they are ready to begin to write. For example, children are confident to use chalk and paintbrushes. Children enjoy listening to stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The nominated person has failed to comply with statutory welfare requirements. However, this breach of requirements has a limited impact on children's welfare. Children play happily with and alongside their friends. Their behaviour is good. Staff are good role models and speak to children in a calm and respectful manner. Children learn about keeping safe as they play and how to share and take turns. They develop positive values throughout their play and routines. Children have useful opportunities to exercise and move with control in the garden, the local park and inside. Older and younger children confidently balance and walk along a low beam. They are adept to jump off the end and land safely. Children develop their independence skills in everyday tasks and activities.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children develop positive relationships with staff and each other. They gain some of the skills they need for their future learning. However, the weaknesses in teaching and assessment mean not all children are consistently supported to make better progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110710
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1099404
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Kennett Valley Community Association Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522481
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2017
Telephone number	07884028715

Kennet Valley Pre-School registered in 1991. It operates from the Holybrook Centre in Calcot, near Reading. The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times. Morning sessions are from 9am to 11.45am and afternoon sessions are from 12.30pm to 3.15pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and on Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 12.25pm, including a lunch club. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are four staff members who work with the children, two of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification 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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