

Forncett Playgroup

Village Hall, Low Road, Forncett St. Mary, Norwich, Norfolk NR16 1JG



Inspection date	27 November 2018
Previous inspection date	2 October 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Some members of the management committee, including those involved in the recruitment of staff, have not provided Ofsted with the required information so that checks can be completed to assess their suitability to be part of the registered body.
- The management committee do not have a secure understanding of the requirements of the early years foundation stage. They do not know that they must notify Ofsted about important changes, including to the management of the playgroup.
- Staff deployment is ineffective. Staff do not rigorously supervise children. Sometimes, they do not see when children place themselves in risky situations. Staff do not notice when some children have little adult interaction as they play.
- The performance management of the staff, including that of the lead practitioner, is weak. Staff are not well supported to continue their professional development. The management committee lack oversight of the lead practitioner's role.
- Staff do not take account of every child's individual needs when planning activities for them. Some young children lack interest in activities and only engage briefly. They do not receive suitable levels of challenge in activities.
- Staff do not involve parents in their assessments of children's learning on entry. Staff do not have a secure understanding of what children already know and can do. Children do not benefit from continuity in learning between the playgroup and home.

It has the following strengths

- Children enthusiastically join in with staff to complete small tasks. They are engaged and interested when helping staff to prepare the table for snack. They communicate well and ask questions. Some children develop a sense of responsibility and help to tidy away toys when prompted by staff.
- Older children are confident in large-group activities. They readily answer staff's questions and enthusiastically show others what they know.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due date
provide Ofsted with the required information so that checks can be completed to confirm the suitability of all members of the management committee	11/12/2018
gain a secure understanding of the requirements of the early years foundation stage, particularly in respect of changes that must be notified to Ofsted	11/12/2018
deploy staff effectively so that children's safety is assured, and their learning needs are consistently met	27/12/2018
implement an effective system to manage staff performance that provides support, coaching and training to improve all staff's personal effectiveness and raise the quality of teaching to a good level	27/02/2019
improve planning so that each child is provided with learning opportunities that are challenging and targeted to their individual needs to secure their good progress in all areas of learning	27/02/2019
improve assessments to promptly identify children's next steps in learning so that they continue to build on what they already know and can do.	27/02/2019

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 with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup acting lead practitioner.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup acting lead practitioner. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julie Meredith-Jenkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

The management committee does not have a secure understanding of their role and responsibilities. Despite being on the committee for more than one year, some committee members do not ensure that they follow the correct procedures and provide Ofsted with the required information so that all suitability checks can be completed. However, they do all have Disclosure and Barring Service checks. Safeguarding is not effective. Some committee members who have not had their suitability checked by Ofsted have important roles. For example, they are responsible for the recruitment of staff, including those in management roles. This demonstrates a significant weakness in the committee's understanding of how to safeguard children. Despite changes in the management of the playgroup, they do not know that they must notify Ofsted of any such changes. However, staff show that they understand the procedures they must follow if they have concerns about children's welfare. Staff, including the lead practitioner, are not well supported in their roles. Despite identifying areas of their practice they would like to improve, they are not supported to access training to improve their personal effectiveness.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff do not gather information to help them to quickly identify how to continue the learning of those children who are new to the playgroup. Staff find out about children's interests, but they do not plan challenging learning opportunities based on what children already know. Often, staff target their teaching towards older children's needs. Older children enjoy listening to stories and answer staff's questions about the story. They confidently name shapes and count how many sides they have when prompted to by staff. Staff introduce new vocabulary, such as pentagon and arch. Older children capably use scissors to cut paper. However, young children and those who are new to the playgroup, do not receive equally challenging opportunities. Staff do not place a strong enough focus on supporting young children's social and emotional development or encourage them to engage in activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff deployment is not effective. Some children do not benefit from consistently good-quality adult interaction and often play on their own. On occasions, children have disagreements between themselves or have difficulty sharing. Staff intervene but this has an impact on other children's concentration and involvement in activities. Staff do not see when children put themselves in risky situations, such as when they climb on chairs or use their teeth to break apart building bricks. However, staff follow secure procedures to promote children's good health. They seek information from parents about children's allergies and ensure children only access food that is safe for them. Staff work closely with parents to promote healthy eating. Children have daily opportunities to be active and play outdoors. Children throw and catch balls. They use spades to dig. They plant and grow vegetables to enhance their understanding of the natural world.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in planning and teaching means that young children do not make good

progress and they are not fully prepared to move on to the next stage in their learning. Young children do not show high levels of interest or engagement in activities. However, older children generally make suitable progress. They enjoy looking at books and are developing their early reading skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254068
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	10064951
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Forncett Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517383
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2015
Telephone number	01508 489711

Forncett Playgroup registered in 1992. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 9am until midday on Wednesdays. The playgroup 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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