

Springhill Pre-School

Millfield Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight PO32 6AS



Inspection date	13 December 2018
Previous inspection date	18 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Good	4 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

- Visitors are unsupervised in some areas of the pre-school when children are present. This is unsafe and detrimental to children's well-being.
- The manager and staff do not check that visitors fully understand the pre-school's phone policy. Visitor's attending the setting during session times have easy access to their mobile phones. This compromises children's welfare.
- The provider does not submit information about all individual committee members to Ofsted, so they can carry out necessary background checks.
- Staff do not consistently provide suitably challenging activities for older children to extend their knowledge. Children do not always demonstrate high levels of motivation and confidence that prepare them for the school environment.
- The manager does not monitor all aspects of teaching to check experiences all staff provide are suitable for children's age and ability.
- There are weaknesses in the self-evaluation process. The manager misses some opportunities to improve the quality of her provision.

It has the following strengths

- Staff have formed effective partnerships with parents and they develop a clear understanding of the economic challenges that families face. They provide support for parents whenever they need it, such as when there are changes at home.

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
ensure that all unchecked visitors to the preschool are supervised at all times for the safety of all children	14/12/2018
implement the mobile phone policy effectively so that all visitors understand the rules in place regarding phones in the setting	14/12/2018
ensure all appropriate paperwork in relation to committee members is submitted to Ofsted so that they can carry out the necessary background suitability checks	07/02/2019
provide a range of challenging activities to fully meet the individual learning needs of older and more able children.	24/01/2019

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

- monitor teaching to check that all staff provide experiences that are suitable for the age and ability of the children involved
- develop all aspects of the self-evaluation process to address all breaches in requirement and to raise the standard of care.

Inspection activities

- The inspector met parents and they discussed the support that staff offers families.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation, they observed an adult-led activity.
- The inspector accessed children's learning records and she talked to staff about the individual progress children are making.
- The inspector watched interactions between staff and children in different areas of the preschool.
- The inspector spoke to the chairperson of the committee about her role and the support she offers the manager.

Inspector
Julie Bruce

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The manager fails to adequately address significant flaws in the pre-school's safeguarding procedures. For instance, she talks to staff about the need to monitor visitors. However, staff sometimes disregard this instruction and they leave visitors unsupervised around children for short periods of time. Staff also do not check that all visitors understand their rules in relation to the safe use and storage of mobile phones. This places children at risk. Ofsted advised the provider of the correct action to take to register committee members. The provider has not responded to this advice. The committee plays an active role within the preschool. They are privy to information about families, such as when they attend meetings. However, the provider has not shared details of all committee members with Ofsted to allow them to carry out the appropriate suitability checks. The provider does follow satisfactory recruitment procedures to check that all staff are safe to work with children. For example, all applicants supply the names of two appropriate referees and these are always followed up by the provider.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The manager does not always check that activities are tailored to meet individual children's needs and teaching across the pre-school is variable. For instance, some staff suggest suitable games they can play with children, such as matching games. Other staff are less involved with children and they miss chances to engage them in conversation. However, staff provide children with a range of easily accessible resources. Children enjoy talking to friends as they turn the pages of books and eat pretend food. Staff have a secure understanding of the levels that children are working at and they share this information with parents. However, they do not always identify how they can raise children's attainment levels.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Significant issues in relation to safeguarding compromises children's safety. Staff have improved partnerships with teachers at local schools. However, staff do not always prepare children well for the experience of moving to school. They do not offer continual challenge to older children to stretch their knowledge. Children do not always develop high levels of resilience or the drive to complete tasks for themselves. Staff form secure emotional links with children, such as when they sit together and discuss characters in books. Staff promote positive behaviour. For instance, they demonstrate when children should use polite language. They remind children to share musical instruments.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children do not make as much progress as possible in all areas of their learning. Children can complete some everyday tasks, such as putting on shoes. Generally children are happy in their play and they form secure friendships. However, some children do not concentrate for long periods of time and they get bored easily. Children enjoy practising their writing skills indoors and outdoors and many enjoy painting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119741
Local authority	Isle of Wight
Inspection number	10070422
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Spring Hill Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522817
Date of previous inspection	18 June 2015
Telephone number	01983 299 500

Springhill Pre-School registered in 1999. It is located in East Cowes on the Isle of Wight. The pre-school employs eight members of staff. Six of these hold early year's qualifications at level 3. A member of bank staff is qualified at a level 5. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term-time only between 9am and 3pm. 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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