

Hepworth Playgroup & Preschool

Village Hall Towngate, Hepworth, HOLMFIRTH HD9 1TE



Inspection date	10 May 2019
Previous inspection date	9 March 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		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 management committee has failed to provide Ofsted with the information it needs about all committee members. This means that the required checks have not been carried out to ensure that they are suitable. Additionally, committee members whose suitability has not been assured by Ofsted are involved in the recruitment of staff.
- Occasionally, staff over-direct children during adult-led activities and do not adapt their teaching to precisely meet children's individual interests and developmental stage.
- The manager does not always use her observations of teaching and practice to precisely focus staff's training and professional development opportunities.

It has the following strengths

- Staff place a strong focus on supporting children's communication and language development. They ask children questions, check their understanding and introduce new words to help extend their vocabulary skills.
- Staff develop strong partnerships with parents and other professionals. This helps to support consistency of care for children. Parents are complimentary about the pre-school and are pleased with their children's progress. They state that, 'Staff nurture children, which results in well-rounded, happy individuals'.
- Children display good literacy skills. They listen with interest to the stories that staff read and talk about what happens. Girls and boys choose books independently and act as readers. They use the pictures in books to help them accurately retell the story to others. Older children write their own name and learn to write other words.
- The manager implements an effective key-person system. Staff help children to feel emotionally secure. Children develop confidence and are very well supported for their eventual move to school. Staff take older children on visits to school each month throughout the year to spend time with teachers and take part in events.

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 Ofsted is provided with the necessary information required to enable checks to be completed to establish the suitability of all committee members, in order to effectively safeguard children	31/07/2019
improve understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements and ensure that safe procedures for recruiting committee members and safe decision-making processes are implemented.	07/06/2019

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

- enhance adult-led activities to ensure they are consistently adapted to meet the individual interests and developmental stage of the children involved
- evaluate the impact of staff's practice to identify and precisely focus their training and professional development needs to help raise the quality of teaching even further, particularly with the youngest children.

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 held meetings with the manager, the nominated individual and committee members. She checked policies and procedures, staff qualifications and evidence of the suitability of staff and committee members.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed the pre-school's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection, and the written comments of other parents.

Inspector
Angela Sugden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. The management committee has failed to notify Ofsted in a timely manner about changes to the committee. Therefore, the required checks have not been carried out to determine their suitability. The management committee does not have a thorough understanding of its responsibilities to meet the statutory requirements. Additionally, members of the committee whose suitability has not been assured by Ofsted are involved in the recruitment of staff and therefore make decisions that impact on children's welfare. This said, the manager ensures that all pre-school staff who work directly with the children are suitable. Staff display a good knowledge of the possible signs of abuse and understand the procedure to follow should they be concerned about a child's welfare or the behaviour of a colleague. The manager provides staff with supervision and good opportunities to gain qualifications. This helps staff to understand their roles and supports their good teaching overall. The manager has a clear knowledge of the strengths in the pre-school's day-to-day provision and identifies areas for further improvement. For example, she has recently worked with staff, parents and children to further develop the outdoor play environment in order to enhance children's explorations and understanding of nature. The manager reviews children's individual progress and the different groups of children that attend. She uses this information well to help her identify where children may need additional help. The manager and staff put in place timely interventions to help children catch up quickly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Qualified staff know the children well. They make regular observations and precise assessment of children. They use this information well to plan activities to support and extend children's learning, overall. Children play cooperatively together and confidently make dens in the garden using fabric and pegs. Staff sensitively join in their play and help them to achieve success in what they set out to do. Children thoroughly enjoy mixing leaves, daisies, dandelions and water together in containers to make potions. Staff effectively help them to understand the changes that take place. Children develop good hand control as they competently manipulate clay. They display a sense of pride in the clay models they make.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children's welfare is not assured. The management committee does not implement robust processes to ensure that the suitability of all committee members has been checked through Ofsted. Nevertheless, staff provide a welcoming, well-organised, bright and stimulating environment that supports children's independent play choices well. Children learn about the differences between themselves and other people. They show sensitivity, kindness and extremely polite behaviour towards each other. Staff skilfully help younger children to understand what is expected of them. Children enjoy learning outdoors. Staff develop their understanding of how to grow and care for a wide range of vegetables. Children are motivated and energetic as they move their bodies to music and enthusiastically do yoga exercises. Staff promote their physical development well. Children learn how to develop healthy lifestyles from an early age.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress in their learning and development. Children are curious and concentrate well. They display good mathematical skills. Older children count well, understand the sequence of the days of the week and recognise numbers. Children develop the skills and attitudes they need for the future and are well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311286
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	10070844
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Hepworth Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522967
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2015
Telephone number	01484 680070

Hepworth Playgroup & Preschool registered in 1980. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including the manager who holds level 5. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. It also offers out-of-school care from 7.30am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. The pre-school currently 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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