

Crossways Playgroup

Crossways Village Hall, Moigne Combe Road, Crossways, Dorchester,
Dorset DT2 8JA



Inspection date	25 April 2019
Previous inspection date	10 May 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

- The manager does not ensure that the correct safeguarding and child protection procedures are followed. She is not monitoring and referring concerns about children's welfare or about the conduct of members of staff.
- The manager does not follow the recruitment procedures and does not ensure that adults working with children are appropriately checked to ensure their suitability.
- The manager does not induct staff sufficiently or provide them with regular supervision to improve their practice.
- Staff do not consistently plan and organise the routines well to keep children engaged and motivated to learn. For example, children lose interest and become bored as they are made to wait too long between activities. This was raised at the last inspection and no improvement has been made.
- Staff do not use the information that they have gathered from the assessment of children's progress well enough. Therefore, they are not providing children with the right level of challenge so that they make good progress during their time in the playgroup.

It has the following strengths

- Children develop secure relationships with the staff and other children in the setting.
- Staff work well with children's parents to support their children's emotional needs. For instance, children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported to follow routines using visual prompts.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action:

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure that staff and management respond to signs that a child may be at risk of harm and refer any concerns to the relevant agencies without delay	07/05/2019
ensure that robust recruitment procedures are followed to ensure the suitability of all staff	07/05/2019
ensure all staff receive suitable induction, including the safeguarding procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's welfare or the conduct of a colleague	07/05/2019

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

	Due date
improve the planning and organisation of the day to keep children motivated and engaged in meaningful learning experiences, with particular regard to the times of changes to routines	07/05/2019
ensure that staff use their assessments, to provide children with the appropriate levels of challenge, to help them to make good progress in their learning	07/05/2019
improve the assessment procedures to identify the areas where children need more support.	07/05/2019

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, and the interactions between the staff and children.
- The inspector looked at written documents including staff files, policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector met with the manager to discuss leadership and management.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Victoria Nicolson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Leaders have failed to identify weaknesses that put children at risk. The manager has not followed robust recruitment procedures and has not ensured staff's suitability to work with children. New staff are not given an induction to inform them of the procedures to follow. They are not aware of what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare, or who they should inform if they have concerns about the conduct of a member of staff. The manager and safeguarding lead do not follow the correct procedures to monitor and refer safeguarding concerns. The manager has met some of the actions from the last inspection. For example, she has developed methods to manage children's behaviour. However, she has failed to identify where requirements are not met and some improvements made have not been sustained. For example, although staff supervisions were completed after the last inspection, they have not continued. Although the manager and staff are working with outside agencies to improve the quality of provision, this work has not had the impact needed and standards have slipped further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

At times, staff do interact well with children and support their chosen play. For example, children excitedly use binoculars to look at the cows in neighbouring fields with the encouragement of staff. Staff have been developing the systems that they use to assess and monitor children's progress. However, monitoring systems are in the early stages and staff do not understand how to identify gaps in learning. They do not consistently plan activities based on children's individual learning needs. The older children and youngest children take part in the same learning experiences, meaning that younger children struggle to be involved and older children are not challenged enough.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership, staff recruitment and safeguarding mean that children's welfare is at risk. Staff do not plan the routines well enough to keep children engaged and motivated to learn. For example, children are made to wait in the book corner after already spending time sat down for lunch, and they get bored and begin rolling around on the floor as staff try to share stories with them. Mostly, children do behave well. They listen and follow instructions to tidy up the toys and learn to take turns with the resources.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children develop some of the skills to support their future learning. For instance, older children learn to be independent and develop an interest in early writing. Younger children are sociable. However, weaknesses in assessment and planning mean that not all children make the progress that they are capable of.

Setting details

Unique reference number	139331
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10089395
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Crossways Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901976
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2018
Telephone number	01305 853466

Crossways Playgroup registered in 1993. It operates from Crossways, near Dorchester, in Dorset. This committee-run playgroup operates term time only on Mondays and Thursdays from 9am to 3pm, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am until 1pm and on Fridays from 9am to midday. There are three staff employed, two of whom hold childcare qualifications at level 3. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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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