

Inspection of Tunstead Playgroup

Tunstead Community Cente, Haworth Drive, Stacksteads, Bacup, Lancashire OL13
0SA

Inspection date: 26 September 2019

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

The manager does not have a thorough knowledge of how to follow safer recruitment guidelines. She has not obtained documentation to help her demonstrate the suitability of staff who occasionally work with children. Although this is a breach of requirements, this weakness does not have a significant impact on children's well-being as these staff are never left unsupervised with children.

Parents comment that they are happy with the care that the staff provide. They say that staff are approachable and are always available to talk about the children. The key-person system helps to support children's emotional well-being. Staff settle new children quickly and create strong attachments with them.

Staff give parents ideas to help children's learning at home. For example, staff suggest ways for parents to support children's confidence and social skills. Children's behaviour is good. Staff are positive role models and teach children the expectations of behaviour. For example, older children know to line up patiently before they go outdoors and hang up their own coats.

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported. Staff use effective strategies which help to improve outcomes for children. For example, staff use visual aids to help to develop children's speech and language skills and close any gaps in their learning. Staff encourage children to negotiate with their peers. This helps them to build relationships with others.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Children enjoy manipulating dough, putting their fingers in flour and water gloop and making marks in different ways. These experiences help to strengthen children's muscles in their fingers to support their early writing skills.
- Staff teach children respect and consideration. They call children by their names and provide eye contact when talking to them. Outdoors, children recall previous stories and use imaginative play to re-enact the story of the 'Three Little Pigs'.
- Staff manage children's behaviour effectively. For example, when children display unwanted behaviour, staff explain how to manage feelings and share the toys. Children cooperate well. For instance, when children were waiting for a turn on the push-along car, one child sat in the car and another decided to push. Staff use praise well to promote children's positive behaviour and raise their self-esteem.
- Children have opportunities to learn about the world around them and how to care for living things. For instance, staff invite a farmer into the setting with his lambs. The children stroke and feed the lambs.
- The manager encourages staff to access professional development opportunities

to improve knowledge about how to support children with SEND. For instance, staff have recently been on a speech and language course to help them with the referral process. This had a positive impact on children's progress because strategies are now put in place immediately.

- The manager has not fully developed robust procedures for recruiting staff and checking their suitability. She does not request a completed job application form and health checks. References are not obtained. However, the impact on children's welfare is reduced. This is because the issue is particularly related to the recruitment of occasional staff, who support during permanent staff absences. The support staff are never left unsupervised and always work alongside regular staff, whose suitability is thoroughly documented.
- Staff do not promote younger children's listening and attention skills well enough. For example, during circle time, they do not consistently ensure that younger children are fully engaged and supported in their learning.
- Staff do not gather important information from parents about what children already know and can do, to support plans for children's learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager has a good relationship with the small team. She provides regular supervision sessions to enable staff to talk to her about any sensitive issues if they need to. Staff members have knowledge of how to protect children from wider safeguarding issues, such as extremism or radicalisation. Staff know what procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's safety or welfare. Staff are aware of the steps to take if an allegation is made against a colleague or the manager. This helps to keep children safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	Due date
develop robust recruitment procedures to ensure that application forms are completed with health information and references are sought to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.	06/11/2019

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

- support staff with strategies to develop younger children's listening and

attention skills during small-group activities

- gather information from parents about what children know and can do when their child first starts at the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309509
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10070875
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 to 3
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Tunstead Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518495
Telephone number	01706 873555
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2015

Information about this early years setting

Tunstead Playgroup registered in 1992 in Bacup, Lancashire. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Maryam Chauhan

Inspection activities

- The quality of teaching was observed and discussions were held about the impact on children's learning and development.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was carried out by the inspector and manager to understand how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- A tour of the setting was carried out with the manager.
- Parents' views were sought during the inspection.
- A number of discussions were held with the manager, and documentation was looked at, including the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection 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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