

Inspection of Cantelupe Pre-School Playgroup

Cantelupe Centre, Market Place, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 5HY

Inspection date:

22 September 2021

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

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

Children do not always receive the support they need from staff to make the progress they are capable of. Staff are motivated and try to engage children in conversation, but some staff do not have the skills or knowledge to engage all children in quality interactions. Children's interests are used to provide some suitable activities and experiences. However, due to the lack of skills from staff, some children find it difficult to engage in play.

Children demonstrate that they feel safe and happy. They settle well at pre-school. Children smile and giggle while they play alongside their friends. They have strong relationships with staff and are comfortable to play cooperatively and join in some activities with staff members.

Children know what is expected of them and are learning to do things for themselves. For example, they make choices about which games they would like to play next. During the games, children show consideration for their friends. They offer support to each other and encourage their friends to pick the correct cards.

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

- The manager of the pre-school carries out some observations but does not always identify weaknesses in staff practice. Staff undertake professional development opportunities such as training. However, they do not always make effective use of this. For example, some staff have completed training around developing children's speech and language skills, but do not use this knowledge to support children's language development.
- The staff team plans various activities using the children's interests. However, activities do not always build on what children already know and can do, to consistently help them to make progress in their learning and development. Also, on occasions, staff use language and questioning that is too advanced for the children. Some children lose interest in the activities quickly and walk away.
- Parents and carers are positive about the pre-school. They talk about how they like the choice of rooms and activities that are available. Parents express that the communication with the pre-school keeps them regularly updated. They particularly value the information they receive about their child's day and the 'chat book' where staff write a brief overview about what their children have been doing during the week. This helps parents to provide consistency of support for their children's learning at home.
- Children benefit from healthy snacks. Staff sit with the children at lunchtimes and encourage them to try different foods. They praise and reward the children for this by using a stamper to stamp pictures on their hands. Staff promote effective hygiene practice. For example, they encourage children to wash and

dry their hands before eating and after visiting the toilet. Staff make effective use of the small outdoor space to provide a range of physical activities for the children.

- The manager makes effective use of the progress check for children aged between two and three years. She works closely with parents and health visitors to access additional support if needed, to help children catch up in their learning.
- Staff make the most of the central location of the pre-school within the local community to plan activities that widen children's experiences. For example, the children visited the local polling station to learn about the voting process. They then held a vote of their own in the pre-school to decide which colour apples they would like to eat for snack.
- Staff remind children of the rules of the pre-school. For example, they remind children to walk nicely when leaving the pre-school at home time, and explain to them about the safety of not climbing when playing in the outdoor space.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a sound knowledge of safeguarding and how to keep children safe. They know how to identify signs of abuse and understand the procedures to report any concerns. Staff know about the whistleblowing procedures and how to report any allegations made against colleagues. The premises are used regularly by the wider community. The manager has a range of robust risk assessments in place, including the management of arrival and collection times at the pre-school. This helps to keep children safe while they are on site.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	Due date
ensure that the curriculum builds on what children already know and can do, to help children to make good or better progress in their learning and development	08/11/2021
ensure the monitoring of staff identifies where practice needs to improve, and provide appropriate professional development to improve their knowledge, skills and support for children's learning	08/11/2021

ensure that staff adapt their practice appropriately, differentiating this to meet the needs of individual children in order to support their learning and development.	08/10/2021
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Setting details

Unique reference number	206738
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10062452
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Cantelupe Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910376
Telephone number	0115 9321329
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2015

Information about this early years setting

Cantelupe Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1992 and is situated in Ilkeston, Derbyshire. It is run by a committee. The pre-school employs eight members of staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and 3. The manager holds level 5. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 2pm. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marie Townrow

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk and discussed the curriculum.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice with the manager.
- Children and staff spoke to the inspector throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed documentation including staff suitability information, training certificates and policies.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views.

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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