

Inspection of Hind Leys Pre-school and Natural Play Centre

Mobile No 2, Forest Street, Shepshed, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 9DB

Inspection date: 14 March 2022

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Inadequate
Leadership and management	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety and welfare is compromised. There are times when babies are alone with staff whose suitability to work with children has not been checked. The provider has not provided Ofsted with information about all persons on the management committee. Therefore, the suitability of these persons is not known. Personal information about children is not fully protected.

Children show positive relationships with staff. One-year-old children cuddle into staff when they sit on their knee. They receive a comforting and reassuring rub on their back from staff. Three- and four-year-old children confidently talk to staff about their needs and wishes. Children play cooperatively with others. For example, they laugh together when they play energetic games with their friends. Children behave well and work together as a team to securely hold a piece of wood in a vice before they hammer nails into it. Two-year-old children concentrate and show their hand-and-eye coordination when they thread beads and leaves onto a piece of wire. They demonstrate a positive attitude to trying new experiences. Staff understand how children progress. They plan experiences to support babies to be creative and to explore musical instruments. For example, children copy staff when they bang on a drum to make a sound.

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

- The provider has not conducted robust recruitment checks for some staff, to verify their suitability to work directly with children. This includes not obtaining Disclosure and Barring Service checks for all staff. At times, some of these staff are left alone with children, out of sight and hearing of other staff. This compromises children's safety and welfare.
- The provider has not followed the correct procedure to provide Ofsted with information about all members of the committee. This means that the suitability of these members has not been established. These members take an active part in the running of the pre-school. For example, they are responsible for reviewing policies and procedures and discussing safeguarding concerns. This potentially puts children's safety and welfare at risk.
- The provider is not aware of their responsibilities under the Data Protection legislation and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The manager stores and retains children's information, however, she is not aware of her responsibilities about how to keep this information safe, in line with the Information Commissioner's Office guidance.
- The manager and staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) well. They refer children for specialist support to help meet their individual needs. Staff receive in-house training to help deepen their knowledge of how to support children with SEND. Staff help children to be

prepared for changes that happen throughout the day. The manager uses additional funding effectively to provide children with one-to-one support to help extend their development.

- Staff use the curriculum to support children's development. They place strong emphasis on outdoor learning and offer children a wide range of activities and experiences. Staff understand how children learn and provide them with appropriate challenge. For example, one-year-old children use their bodies to climb on logs that lie on the ground. Two-year-old children begin to learn how to balance when they climb on tyres and walk across planks of wood. Three- and four-year-old children climb on to low-level trees by themselves.
- The manager and staff support children's social and emotional needs well. They are aware that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some children have not had opportunities to socialise with others. Because of this, the manager ensures that children's key persons spend quality time with children when they first start to help form secure attachments. This gives children a familiar adult to support their emotional needs.
- Staff encourage children to learn skills to help them in the future, such as to be independent. For example, staff give one-year-old children time to put on their own boots to play outdoors. Older children wash their hands independently before eating, promoting effective hand hygiene routines.
- Staff actively promote positive behaviour. They praise children for their achievements. When staff blow a whistle, three- and four-year-old children stop what they are doing and wait for instructions. They show good listening skills and the ability to follow rules.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Children's safety is not guaranteed. The provider does not follow robust recruitment procedures when employing new staff. At times, some staff are left unsupervised with children prior to their suitability checks being completed. The provider does not understand their responsibility to keep personal information about children safe. The provider has failed to ensure that individuals associated with the pre-school committee are suitable. That said, staff do show an understanding of the signs and symptoms that could suggest a child is at risk of harm or abuse. They know the procedures to follow to report concerns about children's safety or welfare. The manager helps parents to keep their children safe at home. For example, she gives them information about internet safety.

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
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ensure that staff are not left alone with children until all relevant suitability checks have been completed	15/03/2022
ensure a robust recruitment procedure is followed to verify the suitability of staff who work directly with children	28/03/2022
ensure that Ofsted is provided with the necessary information to carry out suitability checks on all members of the committee that make up the registered body	21/03/2022
develop awareness of responsibilities under the Data Protection legislation and the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including when it is necessary to register with the Information Commissioner's Office.	17/03/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY221912
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10138556
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 at time of inspection	0 to 5
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	113
Name of registered person	Hind Leys Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911104
Telephone number	01509 508731
Date of previous inspection	17 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

Hind Leys Pre-school and Natural Play Centre registered in 2002. It is situated in the grounds of Iveshead School, Shepshed, Loughborough, Leicestershire and is independently run from the school. The pre-school employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above and four hold qualified teacher status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 5pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the pre-school received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the pre-school.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the pre-school and discussed how she intends to implement the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and administrator. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
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