

Inspection of The Goslings

Winterley Methodist Church, Crewe Road, Winterley, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 4RP

Inspection date: 22 November 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

The provider does not know the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage' well enough. Some requirements are not met and this compromises children's safety. The provider does not have procedures in place for handling information about children safely and appropriately. The provider recruits staff without fully checking their suitability to work with children. Managers do not receive the support that they need to fulfil their roles and responsibilities. As a consequence, they do not identify weaknesses in the curriculum and practice does not improve.

Children are welcomed to the pre-school by the friendly staff. They settle quickly to their self-chosen play. The daily routines are consistent. This helps children to understand the expectations for their behaviour. However, some routines do not promote children's emotional well-being effectively enough. At group times, some younger children become distressed when they cannot sit where they want to. Managers do not evaluate and modify the routine. This does not help children to understand and manage their emotions. It does not help children to feel secure. Overall, the curriculum does not offer children enough challenge and new learning. This applies particularly to the older and most-able children. Children do not make the progress that they are capable of.

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

- The provider has not enabled Ofsted to complete the required suitability checks for all members of the pre-school committee. The provider did not inform Ofsted about a change to who was managing the pre-school, during the manager's long-term absence from work. These omissions breach legal requirements.
- The provider demonstrates a poor understanding of the principles of data protection. They do not inform parents and carers about how their personal information is stored and handled. Managers handle sensitive information about children via personal email accounts. Staff take children's records home with them. The provider does not check that documents are kept safely when they are off the premises. This does not promote children's welfare.
- Managers and staff do not receive the supervision and training that they need to improve their professional skills and knowledge. This is rooted in a presumption that practice is good enough. Managers sometimes comment on the content of planned activities. However, they do not have the skills that they need to evaluate the quality of staff's teaching. This means that staff do not know what they must do to continuously improve their interactions with children.
- The curriculum is not sequenced well enough. Staff can describe a wide range of things that children who participate in activities and routines might learn. But they do not tailor their planning to what individual children already know and

can do. For instance, children of all ages recognise their name card, because they do this every day. However, staff do not use this achievement as the starting point for further learning. This limits children's progress.

- Staff identify some topic-based information that they want children to learn. For example, children find out about food and other products that come from farm animals. However, staff too often link this learning to activities that do not challenge children to think or be creative. That said, children have fun milking a cardboard cow. This 'hands-on' activity helps children to learn and remember that milk comes from cows.
- Children learn habits that promote their good health. Everyone washes their hands before snack time and lunchtime. This keeps children safe from infection. Staff make sure that children fasten their coats before going outdoors in wintry weather.
- Children play outside every day. They get fresh air and exercise that promotes their physical development. Staff teach safety rules, such as always wearing a helmet when riding bicycles. This helps children to begin to judge and manage risks. Children play with and alongside each other. This helps them to form friendships, and they learn to listen to other people's ideas.
- Parents say that children look forward to attending the pre-school. They comment that it is a valued part of the local community. Parents say that they know what children are learning. For example, children are preparing for the Christmas Nativity performance, and like to sing the songs at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety and well-being are not assured. The manager has a poor understanding of safe recruitment. Every member of staff has undergone a criminal records check. However, for some staff, there are no further records that show how their suitability was checked. This is because the manager bypasses vetting processes for people who she knows. This compromises children's safety. That said, managers and staff demonstrate that they know the procedures to follow if they believe that a child is at risk of harm. Staff complete records of children's accidents and share them with parents. Managers make sure that all staff know children's allergy and care plans. This helps to promote children's health.

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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establish safe recruitment procedures, and ensure that details are recorded of vetting processes that have been completed for all employees	30/11/2022
ensure that information and records are handled safely and appropriately, so that children's welfare is promoted	30/11/2022
implement effective arrangements for the supervision of managers and staff, that promotes continuous improvement in the quality of their practice	30/11/2022
improve knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements, so that the curriculum promotes children's good progress.	30/11/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY235841
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10234667
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	The Goslings Pre-school, Winterley Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP524927
Telephone number	07749935583
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2017

Information about this early years setting

The Goslings registered in 2002. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four members of staff hold qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 3.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It is eligible to provide funded early education for two-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Susan King

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector held meetings with the pre-school manager and the deputy manager. She spoke with a member of the committee.
- The inspector spoke with parents, staff and children. She took account of their views.
- Examples of documents were sampled and reviewed by the inspector. She checked evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

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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