

Inspection of Bailgate Pre-School Playgroup

Methodist Church Hall, Bailgate, Lincoln, Lincolnshire LN1 3AR

Inspection date: 15 June 2023

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

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

Ofsted has not been provided with the necessary information about all committee members to enable relevant suitability checks to be carried out. These members are responsible for the organisation of the pre-school.

Children benefit from staff inviting parents to bring them into the pre-school to help them settle, supporting their emotional well-being. This helps children confidently start to play and engage in activities before their parents leave them. When children join staff to do nursery rhyme actions, they say, 'this is fun'.

Children access equipment that is provided by staff to support their physical skills and take and manage risks. For example, staff stand close by to support children's safety, if necessary, when they negotiate climbing up a slide and going down. Children are given equipment to help develop their small-muscle skills. Staff ask them to use scissors with scoops on the end to pick up large objects first and then smaller ones. Children are asked to share the equipment, helping them to learn how to take turns. If children do not want a turn, staff give them words to use that encourage them to be polite, such as 'no, thank you'. Children have opportunities to take books home to share with their parents. This helps to increase their interest and love of books in the pre-school, being more willing to listen and engage in the stories staff read.

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

- The provider does not ensure that Ofsted is provided with the necessary information about all committee members to enable their suitability to be checked. These members are responsible for the running of the pre-school. This includes taking part in the procedure to recruit new staff and reviewing policies and procedures.
- The provider does not meet all the requirements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'. The pre-school's Ofsted registration certificate is not displayed or available for parents on request.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported well. The manager works tirelessly to ensure that children with SEND have support from other professionals to meet their individual needs. The staff know the children well and support them emotionally. For example, when the noise level overwhelms them, staff provide children with a quiet space to play. When routines of the day change, staff stay close to children to help them manage this time of transition.
- Additional funding for children is used effectively. This funding helps to secure additional one-to-one support from staff and small-group times to meet children's individual needs and to help close any gaps in their learning.

- Staff support children's communication and language skills well. They ask them questions to encourage their thinking skills. Staff use Makaton sign language to support children's understanding of words and how other people may communicate.
- Staff help children to learn to identify and manage their feelings and behaviours. Children link colours to different feelings, such as yellow for happiness. They explain that when they give their mummy kisses and cuddles it makes them happy. Staff help children understand that, sometimes, people may have lots of emotions and struggle to identify how they are feeling.
- Staff plan activities for children to support their learning. For example, children have opportunities to develop their balance and coordination when they copy staff to do yoga poses. However, some large-group activities are not as effective. Staff struggle to maintain all children's attention and focus, so some children do not benefit from the learning being offered.
- Overall, children learn to behave well. Staff plan games to encourage children to share, such as rolling a ball to one another. Staff ask children to use their listening ears when they ask them questions. Before snack times, staff ask children to join them to sing a please and thank you song to promote good manners.
- Through regular observations and assessments, staff identify what children need to learn next. One example of this is to help children to be ready for their move on to school. Staff encourage children to be independent. For example, children pour their drinks and select their fruit at snack time. They wash their bowl and cup by themselves.
- Parents comment that they appreciate when staff take children into the community. Staff plan visits to take children to parks and green spaces, where they have daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider does not meet all of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Not all members of the committee have received suitability checks with Ofsted. These members are responsible for recruiting new staff and reviewing policies and procedures, which potentially impact negatively on children's safety. That said, the manager and staff know how to identify the signs of abuse and where to report their concerns. The manager and staff ensure that the doors are securely fastened. Unauthorised people cannot have access to children. Staff help children to learn how they can keep themselves safe. For example, they discuss road safety.

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 Ofsted is provided with the necessary information to carry out suitability checks on all members of the committee that make up the registered body	13/07/2023
ensure that the Ofsted registration certificate is displayed or available to share with parents on request.	29/06/2023

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

- support staff to maintain children's attention and focus during large-group activities to enable them to get the most from the learning offered.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253500
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10264845
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Bailgate Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517282
Telephone number	07943 629258
Date of previous inspection	28 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

Bailgate Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1992 and is situated in the Bailgate area of Lincoln, Lincolnshire. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school opens during school term time. Sessions are from 8.45am until 12.15pm, on a Monday and Thursday, and from 8.45am until 3.15pm, on a Wednesday and Friday. 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 provider 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 provider.
- The manager, the deputy manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the pre-school and discussed how they implement the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with staff and the provider 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 the deputy manager. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- Parents shared their views about the pre-school 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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