

Busy Bees Pre-School

Methodist Church Hall, West Cross, High Street, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6JS



Inspection date	13 February 2015
Previous inspection date	30 January 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The designated member of staff for safeguarding lacks a secure awareness of the child protection procedures. There are specific details missing from the written safeguarding policy. Consequently, staff are unaware of the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against a member of staff.
- Staff do not receive regular supervision to support their professional development, as required.
- Children practise their early writing skills but staff do not routinely encourage them to develop these in a variety of ways.

It has the following strengths

- Children join in enthusiastically with familiar songs, supporting their language development well.
- Children's health benefits from a variety of nutritious snacks and easy access to drinking water.
- The partnership with parents, other early years settings and professionals is effective. This ensures children receive the care and support they need to develop and progress well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure the safeguarding policy includes the procedure to follow if allegations are made against a member of staff and that all staff are aware of this process
- implement robust supervision arrangements that provide all staff with a clear programme of support.

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

- encourage children to practice their mark-making and early writing skills in a range of different play activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held meetings with the provider.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at some children's records, including their learning assessments, and spoke to staff.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, ongoing professional development and self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and outside area.

Inspector

Sue Taylor

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

All staff are qualified and this helps them have a secure understanding of how children develop and learn. Staff have a clear and confident knowledge of children's achievements and the next stages in their development. They support children as they engage in activities and play that helps extend and challenge their learning. This means children get the encouragement and motivation they need to progress and prepare them for school. The staff do not routinely provide opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills at different activities. For example, staff do not fully encourage children to use writing materials in their role-play or outside. The monitoring and tracking of children's progress is very good and enables staff to easily identify any learning gaps to plan for. Children enjoy their time and get very involved in the activities and their own imaginative play. The sharing of information between staff and parents works well. Parents readily support children's learning at home and provide feedback about children's achievements.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate

In general, most practices at the pre-school help keep children safe. However, a weakness in child protection knowledge affects children's well-being, as staff are not made aware of some required procedures. Children learn to keep themselves safe as they practice emergency evacuations. They make confident choices about their play from the wide range of resources and activities. There are various resources and displays to help children learn about and respect people's differences. Children behave well as they play cooperatively, share resources and take turns. They develop a positive sense of emotional security as they build strong relationships with staff.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate

The provider, who is responsible for safeguarding, has some knowledge of possible child protection concerns. However, she does not know the correct action to take if there are allegations made against a member of staff. In addition, the relevant detail is not included in the written policy to inform staff and parents. Staff meet daily as a group with the provider. They evaluate the session and discuss children's learning needs so they can all help them progress. The provider values the views of parents and staff when making changes to the pre-school and planning improvements. For example, the staff team are looking for ways to improve the outdoor area. However, staff do not receive effective supervision, with regular confidential discussions, to encourage their own continuous improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127069
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836201
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	Josephine Weeks
Date of previous inspection	30 January 2009
Telephone number	01580 765251

Busy Bees Pre-School registered in 1994. It operates from the Methodist Church Hall in Tenterden, Kent. The pre-school is registered on the Early Years Register. It is open each weekday, term time only, from 9am until 12.15pm, and on Wednesday it is open until 2.30pm. The pre-school supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold Pre-school Learning Alliance diplomas at level 3. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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