

St. Peter's Under 5s

St. Peters Catholic Infant School, Horton Road, GLOUCESTER, GL1 3PY



Inspection date

7 July 2015

Previous inspection date

25 January 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The nominated person has not completed suitability checks on all the committee and records relating to suitability for some members are not available for inspection. This is a breach of requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register. However, the impact on children's welfare is not significant as committee members don't have regular or unsupervised access.
- Although staff supervise children well as they engage in challenging activities outdoors, they do not always make the most of these experiences to extend children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff work extremely well in partnership with the schools children will attend to support children for their future learning. They use information gained to plan targeted support for the oldest children as they gain the required skills and attitudes needed for starting school.
- Staff are very effective at helping children who speak English as an additional language or who have communication delay to extend their communication and language skills.
- Staff training reflects the changing needs of children attending the pre-school. This has a positive impact on outcomes for children.
- Children learn about their own health and safety, such as when they discuss healthy foods and learn to take suitable risks on the balancing equipment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide Ofsted, in a timely manner, with information needed to determine the suitability of the committee
- ensure all records, including those to show information about staff and committee members' vetting processes have been completed, are easily accessible and available for inspection

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

- review the deployment of staff so that staff spend more time actively extending children's play and learning.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- implement effective systems to ensure that the registered person and any other person caring for, or in regular contact with, children (including on a voluntary basis) is suitable, which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- implement effective systems to ensure that the registered person and any other person caring for, or in regular contact with, children (including on a voluntary basis) is suitable, which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play, activities and staff interaction with children in all areas of the pre-school including outside, and viewed the toys, resources and equipment available for children's use.
- The inspector held discussions with the pre-school managers, nominated person, staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, staff training and professional development, and evaluation processes.
- The inspector looked at some records for children's learning and development, and discussed how staff assess children's progress.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

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

Supervision and ongoing training mean that staff understand how children learn and the learning requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Consequently, staff carefully plan activities by taking into consideration children's individual needs and interests. For example, boys who were den building were helped to learn to consider each other's ideas. Consequently, they developed their problem solving and social skills. The high ratio of adults to children ensures children gain individual attention to achieve the next steps in their learning. This particularly benefits children with identified gaps in their learning as staff playfully carry out planned interventions. For example, children who enjoy games played with a member of staff as they learnt key words. There is an appropriate mix of adult- and child-led activities which consider the age of the children attending. For example, younger children enjoy many sensory activities as staff follow their lead. Older children clearly enjoy whole group activities, such as when they experience stories through rhyme and rhythm as part of their learning in literacy. Staff share children's learning and progress with parents effectively. Overall, children make good progress as a result of effective teaching.

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

Staff effectively implement the key-person system. As a result, children form close attachments with staff, which promotes their emotional well-being. Children explore their emotions when listening to stories or talking in groups. This helps to prepare children for changes, such as moving to a new school. Overall, children behave well and challenging behaviour is managed skilfully. Children learn good health and self-care practices through the daily routine. For example, they know to wash their hands before eating and after messy activities. They have regular fresh air and exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The manager carries out checks of the environment to make sure areas used by children are safe and stimulating. The staff and the manager have undergone checks on their suitability to work with children and this information is recorded. Although the nominated person has notified Ofsted of changes to the committee, she has failed to ensure that information has been supplied so that the required suitability checks can be completed. In addition, records of suitability checks on other committee members are not kept on the premises available for inspection. These committee members do not work directly with the children. Consequently, the impact of this lack of robust safeguarding practice is not significant. The manager uses parent questionnaires to identify areas to develop and drive improvements. Regular monitoring of the quality of teaching, the progress of children and the range of activities provided by staff helps her to meet the learning and development needs of all children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342158
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	828414
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	83
Name of provider	St. Peter's Under 5s Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2010
Telephone number	07703505933

St Peter's Under 5s registered in 1985 and is located within the grounds of St Peter's Catholic Primary School close to Gloucester city centre. Sessions run for pre-school children each day for a variety of times. This includes Monday and Wednesday from 8.45am until 3pm, Tuesday from 8.45am to 11.45am, Thursday from 12.30pm to 3.30pm, and Friday from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. For children under four years of age sessions take place on Tuesday from 12.30pm to 3.30pm, Thursday from 8.45am to 11.45am and Friday from 8.45am to 11.15am. The pre-school has good links with the nearby Catholic church, the adjacent primary school and other local playgroups. There are eight members of staff who work directly with children, all of whom hold early years qualifications. The manager and deputy both hold a National Vocational Qualification at level 5 in management and advanced practice.

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