

Young Risers Pre-School

Downs Road, Istead Rise, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 9HG



Inspection date

9 July 2015

Previous inspection date

30 March 2011

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		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
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 provider has not ensured that Ofsted are notified of all changes to committee members in order for their suitability checks to be completed. This is a breach of the legal requirements on the Early Years Foundation Stage and associated Childcare Register.
- Staff do not always ensure that parents are fully informed of any accidents or injuries children have while in their care.
- The acting manager does not consistently monitor and review staff practice. This means that weaknesses are not always identified in order to arrange additional support or training.
- Children's behaviour is managed appropriately, although not all staff are confident in using relevant strategies consistently.
- The acting manager does not keep an accurate record of children's hours of attendance. Therefore, she is not recording when children arrive or leave.

It has the following strengths

- Staff maintain a flexible approach to planning which considers children's ages and individual interests, as well as their next steps in learning.
- Staff support children's well-being and independence well because they have good relationships with them.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported appropriately because staff seek support and guidance from outside agencies.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve awareness of the notification requirements in order to ensure that Ofsted are informed of any changes to committee members so they can complete suitability checks, as required
- ensure that parents are informed of any accidents and injuries sustained by their child on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable
- ensure that an accurate daily register is maintained, including children's hours of attendance.

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

- refine and focus the supervision and monitoring of staff practice to more effectively support their ongoing professional development and enhance their practice
- extend opportunities for staff to review strategies for managing children's behaviour to ensure a more consistent approach.

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

- ensure that Ofsted is informed of any changes to the nominated person of the childcare provision, which includes details of all committee members (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- maintain a daily record of the hours of attendance of the children looked after (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that Ofsted is informed of any changes to the nominated person of the childcare provision, which includes details of all committee members (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- maintain a daily record of the hours of attendance of the children looked after (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated person and acting manager to discuss aspects of practice.
- The inspector viewed the children participating in play activities both indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children about the pre-school practices.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the acting manager.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Overall, staff understand how children develop and learn through play. They join in with children as they play and extend learning opportunities through encouragement and responding to children's ideas. This helps to challenge and interest children. Children have free access to explore indoor and outdoor environments, which helps to develop their independence and confidence. Children develop their understanding of the world through activities and resources based on themes, such as different countries. Staff observe and assess children's achievements and development well. They work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure that children are developing skills for their future learning and school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Children are happy and settle easily because they have close relationships with staff. This reflects in children's confidence as they actively seek support and enjoy involving staff in their play. Staff work closely with parents to gain information about children's likes, dislikes and care needs. This ensures that they can offer appropriate support to individual children. Overall, staff are appropriate role models and support children to manage their behaviour. However, on occasions, some staff lack confidence in using the behaviour management strategies consistently. Generally, staff maintain a safe and welcoming environment. However, they do not always ensure that parents are made aware of any accidents children have in their care. Staff have close links with local school teachers. They invite them to visit the pre-school and accompany children on visits to the school. This helps to ensure a smooth move to the next stage of children's learning.

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

The provider has not ensured that all legal requirements have been met. Changes to the committee members have not been notified to Ofsted, which means that they have been unable to complete suitability checks, as required. The acting manager and staff understand their role in protecting children, including the reporting procedures if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff have appropriate qualifications and the acting manager works in collaboration with other settings. This enables staff to attend training regularly and exchange information to support them in developing practice. Staff have supervision meetings. However, the manager does not consistently monitor staff practice, meaning that opportunities to enhance the quality of teaching are missed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127794
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840713
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	Young Risers Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2011
Telephone number	01474 832205

Young Risers Pre-School registered in 1993. It is run by a volunteer parent committee as a charity and operates from the annexe in Istead Rise Primary School in Gravesend, Kent. They offer sessions from 9pm to 3pm, five days a week during school term time only. The pre-school employs nine staff members; the acting manager has a level 4 qualification and six staff members have appropriate level 3 early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years old.

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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