

Jellybeans Playgroup

The Epiphany Church Hall, Mansfield Drive, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 3JP



Inspection date

10 July 2015

Previous inspection date

29 January 2014

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 quality of teaching is not consistently good. Staff do not provide children with sufficient challenge or enough opportunities to explore and investigate. Consequently, children do not become absorbed in their learning.
- The toys and play materials are basic and activities lack imagination. There are not enough activities to promote children's understanding of technology.
- Staff do not make use of the daily routine to further develop children's independence and their skills for taking care of themselves. This means that children do not always have opportunities to develop good hygiene routines.
- Systems to monitor staff practice do not sufficiently focus on improving the quality of teaching.
- The procedures for checking how well children learn and make progress are not clear enough. Managers do not identify how specific groups of children, such as boys and girls, are making progress. This means that planning is not targeted to make sure all children achieve well.

It has the following strengths

- There is an established key person system in place, which helps children to settle and feel secure.
- Staff deployment is good and enables children to move freely from inside to the outdoor play area, which helps to develop their confidence.
- Parents are well informed about the activities taking place in the setting through a variety of ways, including receiving regular newsletters. This helps them to be more involved in their children's learning at the playgroup.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the quality of teaching to ensure it is consistently good or better by: a) planning activities that interest children and encourage them to become absorbed in their learning; b) enabling children to develop their own ideas and enjoy sufficient challenge; and c) providing more opportunities for children to develop their understanding of technology
- improve the arrangements for assessing children's learning by checking more thoroughly how different groups of children learn and use this information to ensure that all children make good or better progress.

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

- increase the range of resources available to children to a) ensure they are continually stimulated and challenged in their learning; and b) provide them with more opportunities to explore and investigate
- make the most of everyday routines to promote children's independence, by ensuring that children develop their understanding of the importance of good hygiene routines and increase the opportunities for children to manage this by themselves
- make better use of staff development to improve the quality of teaching to ensure it is consistently good or better.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff practice to assess the quality of teaching.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff to assess their knowledge and understanding of safeguarding.
- The inspector looked at a small selection of records, including children's development files, and systems for tracking children's progress.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents who were spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Elizabeth Mackey

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is variable. Staff are well deployed, and generally interact positively to support children's learning. However, they do not build in enough opportunities for children to develop their own ideas. Generally, the toys and activities are basic, and do not sufficiently support children's understanding of technology. As a result, the older children move from one activity to another and do not become absorbed in their learning. This does not enable them to make the best possible progress in readiness for school. When children are playing with the water, staff introduce mathematical language to promote their understanding of volume. Staff work well with other early years settings and schools, in preparation for the next stage in children's learning. They have well-established relationships with other professionals and agencies. This helps to ensure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are appropriately supported. Staff regularly share their observations of the progress children are making with parents. Parents report that staff communicate with them daily and their children are progressing well.

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

Children are settled and engage confidently with staff. They behave well and they help to tidy away the toys when it is time to do so. Children independently move between the indoor and outside play areas. This gives them ample opportunity to enjoy fresh air and physical activities. Children learn to keep themselves safe, as staff give explanations when reinforcing the playgroup 'rules'. Staff do not consistently support the good health of children. For example, they use anti-bacterial gel instead of taking children to wash their hands. This fails to teach children good hygiene routines. Children enjoy healthy snacks and they are encouraged to drink plenty, to stay hydrated in hot weather. However, staff do not make the most of opportunities to help children develop their independence. For example, during snack time they do not encourage the children to serve themselves or pour their own drinks. Staff have attended safeguarding training, and they know the steps they need to take if they had a concern about a child's welfare.

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

There are systems in place for staff appraisal, supervision and team meetings. However, they do not sufficiently focus on staff's knowledge and skills to improve the quality of teaching. The management team tracks individual children's learning and development; however they do not identify the progress of specific groups of children, for example boys. Consequently, planning is not accurately targeted for children who may need more help to achieve as well as others. The nominated person for safeguarding has attended relevant training and appropriate procedures are in place. At the time of the inspection, the playgroup was preparing to move to new premises. Some equipment and documentation had been moved off site, including self-evaluation information and staff files. The management team recognises the weaknesses in the setting and aspires to improve their

practice. They have effectively identified future targets in order to achieve this.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122605
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1018202
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Jellybeans Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2014
Telephone number	01737 642416

Jellybeans Playgroup registered in 1993. It operates from a church hall building in Merstham, Surrey. Children have access to a large hall and a secure outside play area. The playgroup is open each weekday from 9.30am to 12.30pm term time only. The playgroup is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The playgroup receives nursery education funding for children aged two, three and four years. The playgroup supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. Nine staff work with children and they all hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff have level five qualifications, and one staff member has a level four qualification.

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