

# Five Ashes Pre-School

Five Ashes Village Hall, Five Ashes, Mayfield, East Sussex, TN20 6JA



<b>Inspection date</b>	8 October 2015
Previous inspection date	20 June 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Inadequate	4
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Inadequate	4

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- The provider is in breach of a number of requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register. For example, procedures for safeguarding and managing complaints are weak and there is no evidence that public liability insurance is held.
- Staff do not plan activities and play experiences that meet children's learning needs. Children do not engage well in their learning and lack motivation. They make limited progress from their starting points.
- Staff do not carry out regular observations and assessments to identify children's starting points and monitor their progress. Staff do not plan for children's next steps in learning, track their achievements or identify and address any gaps in their learning.
- Staff do not share information about children's ongoing development and progress with parents to support children's learning at home.
- Self-evaluation is weak. Leaders do not effectively identify key areas to improve or monitor the quality of teaching and learning well enough.
- Staff do not always promote children's awareness of their safety well to help them recognise possible risks and how to manage these.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff promote children's health appropriately. For example, children eat healthy snacks and regularly spend time outdoors.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	<b>Due Date</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ improve the lead practitioner's safeguarding knowledge and understanding, and ensure all staff know the procedures to follow in the event of a child protection concern</li> </ul>	08/11/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ implement written procedures for dealing with concerns and complaints from parents and/or carers and investigate any written complaints within 28 days, and keep a written record of any complaints received and their outcome</li> </ul>	15/10/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ make sure valid public liability insurance is maintained at all times</li> </ul>	09/10/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ plan activities and play experiences that offer good levels of challenge for all children, meet their interests and promote their ongoing development so that they make good progress</li> </ul>	08/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ improve assessment processes to identify children's starting points, and help staff use information gained from observations and assessments to consistently monitor children's learning and development to identify and close any gaps in their learning</li> </ul>	08/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ improve partnership work with parents so that staff share information about children's ongoing development effectively to help promote learning at home</li> </ul>	08/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ improve the quality of teaching through effective monitoring to ensure staff understand and know how to provide experiences, interaction and activities that meet children's learning needs and which help them to make good progress.</li> </ul>	08/12/2015

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

- improve systems for evaluating the quality of the provision so that clear and effective targets are set to help make continuous improvements that support children's care and learning experiences
- develop children's awareness of possible hazards and help them recognise and learn to manage possible risks to stay safe.

**Inspection activities**

- The inspector sampled a selection of documents, including children's records, and staff suitability checks, qualifications and their first-aid certificates.
- The inspector observed activities in all areas of the premises, including the garden.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and a committee member to discuss the legal requirements.

**Inspector**

Lisa Paisley

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate**

The leaders of the pre-school have a poor understanding of legal requirements. Children's safety and welfare are compromised due to breaches of requirements. Safeguarding is ineffective. The manager and staff lack understanding of the action to take in the event of safeguarding concerns. This compromises children's welfare. There are no procedures to manage complaints; therefore, the provider fails to deal with these effectively. Self-evaluation, staff supervision and monitoring of staff practice are poor. Therefore, weaknesses in staff's understanding, knowledge and skills are not identified to improve the quality of teaching and the provision. The recently appointed manager is beginning to make some improvements with support from the early years team. For example, children are now supervised at all times.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate**

Staff do not plan effectively for children's learning or tailor activities to their individual needs. They do not provide effective interaction with children to extend and develop their learning. Staff do not identify children's starting points or use observation and assessment well. Therefore, they lack understanding of children's progress and are unable to identify any gaps in their learning to plan for their individual next steps in learning. Parents receive little information about their children's learning to help them support children's learning at home. However, children enjoy choosing from the activities staff set out and show some interest in their play. They develop some independence and confidence. At times, staff provide some adequate support, such as asking children basic questions while they play.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate**

Children's well-being cannot be assured as staff lack understanding of safeguarding procedures to promote their welfare. There is no evidence of public liability insurance to protect children's well-being. Staff do not always help children to understand how to stay safe. For instance, they do not always raise their awareness of possible minor hazards, such as tripping over. However, staff understand their responsibilities to make records of accidents and inform parents of these. Staff help children settle when they start, such as offering comfort to them. Children are happy to play with their friends and build good relationships with each other. Staff help children learn to share and take turns. This helps children develop respect for each other. Children play in the garden area and go on nature walks to promote their physical development and understanding about the world.

### **Outcomes for children are inadequate**

Children's progress is limited. Staff lack understanding of children's progress in relation to their starting points, age and stage of development. Consequently, children are not adequately prepared for the next stage in their learning or their move to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	109421
<b>Local authority</b>	East Sussex
<b>Inspection number</b>	986834
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	35
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	9
<b>Name of provider</b>	Five Ashes Community Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	20 June 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	07747 112509

Five Ashes Pre-School registered in 1988. It is run by a committee and is located in the village of Five Ashes, East Sussex. The pre-school employs four members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one member of staff with Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school opens from 9.15am to 2.15pm on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, during term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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