

Humptys Pre School

Carpond Lane, Wilburton, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3RJ



Inspection date	12 November 2015
Previous inspection date	2 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	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 procedures to inform Ofsted of changes to the members of the registered body have not been completed in the appropriate timescale. All individuals have, however, undergone background checks which reduces the impact on children's safety.
- Progress checks for children aged between two and three years have not been carried out as required.
- Staff are yet to establish robust and consistent ways to assess children's progress and plan challenging next steps in their learning.
- Staff are yet to attend food hygiene training to ensure children's snacks are prepared in the correct and hygienic way. In the meantime, in recognition of this oversight, children are served foods they can manage themselves, such as fruit.
- Regular staff supervision to monitor staff practice, support their professional development or tackle underperformance is not in place.
- Effective monitoring procedures are not in place to identify gaps in children's progress and where necessary, enable targeted support to be implemented to help them catch up.
- Too little information is gained about children before they start the pre-school.

It has the following strengths

- The acting manager knows what is needed to improve the pre-school. She has recently undertaken her duties and has already begun to take steps to address weaknesses. Help has been sought from the local authority and she is keen to drive forward improvement with the quality of what is offered to children.
- Children enjoy their time at pre-school. They know the routines and are happy to independently find activities and resources that interest them.

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:

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ implement an effective and consistently followed system to observe children, assess their progress and accurately identify their next steps in learning 	25/01/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ complete the progress check for children between the age of two and three years for all children on roll who are in this age range 	07/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure all staff involved in the preparation and handling of food attend training in food hygiene 	07/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure staff receive regular supervision to offer support and training to improve their practice and performance 	14/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ inform Ofsted of all changes to the names of the people who make up the membership of the registered provider of the pre-school. 	07/12/2015

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

- implement an effective system to monitor children's progress to ensure any gaps are quickly identified and addressed
- gather more detailed information about what children can already do when they first start at the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the setting, observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the acting pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the acting pre-school manager and providers. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Procedures to inform Ofsted of changes to the committee have not been completed in the required time. These individuals hold a position of responsibility for decision making in the pre-school which ultimately means that children's safety may be compromised. That being said, background checks have been completed and other recent safeguarding matters have been addressed swiftly and appropriately. Secure recruitment procedures are in place for staff and even those very new to their role know the procedures to take in the event of an emergency. Staff know how to identify and report concerns about children and follow other procedures so that children remain safe in their care. Self-evaluation is in place and generally identifies actions needed to improve the pre-school. However, some of the procedures identified, including those that are a statutory requirement, are yet to be implemented. For example, staff supervision has not taken place and means that inconsistencies in staff practices have not been addressed. Training opportunities have been attended to ensure staff have knowledge of first aid, for example, although no member of staff currently has training in food hygiene.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Children are occupied throughout their time at the pre-school. They happily join staff and parent helpers at planned activities or are content to find toys that interest them. Staff encourage children to practise their early writing and use resources to compare size, numbers and colours. However, the observations and the assessment that staff make of children are weak. There is also a lack of planning for children's next steps in learning. This means that at times activities are not challenging enough, especially for more-able children. Staff have also missed opportunities to gain detailed information about children when they first start the pre-school. This too, has a negative impact on planning to promote children's learning to the very highest level from the start.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children show they are developing their independence by moving freely around the pre-school and attending to their own self-care needs according to their level of development. Children behave and play well together, they communicate satisfactorily and generally can listen carefully to stories. These skills help children in their preparation for school. Those learning English as an additional language are supported in using their home languages and in communicating with their friends. Children spend time outside in the garden to extend their learning in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

The progress checks for children aged between two and three years have not been carried out. Equally, there are no robust systems to monitor individual children's overall progress or that of groups of children. This makes it difficult to establish accurately the progress children are making or to identify those requiring extra support and guidance. The acting manager is building partnerships with other providers and has put systems in place to keep parents informed of children's activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	259699
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	867156
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Humptys Pre-School (Wilburton)
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2011
Telephone number	07951 302 330

Humptys Pre School was registered in 1984. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school opens from Monday to Thursday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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