

Busy Bees Pre-School

The Salvation Army, The Citadel, Raikes Parade, Blackpool, FY1 4EL



Inspection date	1 February 2016
Previous inspection date	26 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff actively help children to understand how to keep themselves safe. Rigorous risk assessments are in place to help identify and minimise any potential hazards.
- Staff form close and respectful relationships with parents. They provide helpful ideas for parents to continue children's learning at home.
- Children are supported to look after their own personal needs and eagerly offer to carry out small tasks. They are confident and enthusiastic learners.
- Comprehensive assessments are used to accurately monitor the progress that children make. This helps staff to promptly identify any gaps in children's learning and implement effective strategies to promote early support. Children are making good progress in all areas of their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff supervision has not yet targeted professional development opportunities, in order to raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level.
- Staff do not consistently support parents to share what they know their child can already do.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on targeting professional development opportunities to raise the quality of teaching even higher and provide excellent outcomes for children
- strengthen partnerships with parents and support them more effectively to share what they know about their child's achievements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the pre-school deputy managers.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school. She looked at a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and the pre-school's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.

Inspector

Cath Palser

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a robust understanding of what to do should they have concerns about the welfare or safety of a child. The management team regularly seeks the views of children and parents and evaluate practice to set targets to improve. Staff undertake regular training which helps to enhance their knowledge and skills. Following training, effective programmes are used to promote children's mathematical development, and communication and language skills. However, supervision is not sufficiently rigorous to ensure that the quality of teaching is maintained. Staff establish strong partnership working with parents and other professionals to provide consistency in children's learning and development. Additional funding is used effectively to meet the needs and interests of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well and use a range of effective strategies to support their learning. They give children plenty of time to carry out their own ideas. This helps children to explore, experiment and be creative. For example, younger children show curiosity as they pour and transport the sand using different tools and equipment. Older children thoroughly enjoy dressing up and making up their own role-play ideas in the home corner. Staff promote children's language and communication well in a variety of ways. For example, they encourage children to talk about their experiences, ask questions to check their knowledge and understanding and introduce new words. This helps children to be confident talkers. A range of methods are used well to make mathematics fun and purposeful.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff effectively promote children's independence and self-care skills. They are good role models and provide clear and consistent guidance and instructions. Staff value the contributions that children make and actively listen to their views and opinions. This contributes towards children's self-esteem and confidence. Staff support all children to understand the feelings and opinions of each other and they play cooperatively together. Older children show empathy and kindness to younger children. The environment is planned so that children can access resources freely and play with them in their own way. Children play with vigour and energy and take part in a good range of active experiences. They enjoy experiencing the different weather conditions and learn about their community and wider world. Children develop a growing understanding of how to keep themselves healthy. They show enthusiasm and energy as they take part in a range of high-energy activities that promote their physical and emotional well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning, given their starting points. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, are acquiring the key skills they need for future learning and are well prepared for school. Children are confident and motivated to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309791
Local authority	Blackpool
Inspection number	855220
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Busy Bees Playgroup (Blackpool) Committee
Date of previous inspection	26 March 2012
Telephone number	07961 921 836

Busy Bees Pre-School was registered in 1988 and is managed by a board of trustees. The pre-school employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 6. The pre-school is open Monday to Thursday from 8.30am until 3pm and on Fridays from 8.30am until 12 noon, during term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

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