

St Leonards Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	300739
Inspection date	17/09/2008
Inspector	Pauline Garfield

Setting address	St Leonards Church Hall, Everingham Road, Sheffield, S5 7LE
------------------------	--

Telephone number	0114 242 2466
-------------------------	---------------

Email

Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises
------------------------	------------------------------------

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Description of the setting

St. Leonards Nursery is a privately owned day nursery which first opened in 1995. It operates in self contained rooms in the St. Leonards Church building in the Longley area of Sheffield and serves the local community and wider Sheffield area. Children are cared for in a dedicated hall, and a separate dining room. The premises are accessible to people with limited mobility. A fully enclosed area is available for outdoor play.

The nursery is open each weekday from 07.30 to 18.00 all year, except for weekends and bank holidays. There are 24 places for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are currently 25 children aged two to under five on roll.

There are four permanent staff members, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The nursery is not effective in meeting the needs of children. Not enough is done to find out about children, their backgrounds, and their starting points in relation to learning and development. Several welfare requirements have not been met with regard to staffing and qualifications, and some required policies are not in place. Some changes have been made in the provision since the last inspection but overall recommendations from the last inspection have not been met. The manager has not fully implemented the Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Consequently, this significantly impacts on the provision's capacity to maintain continuous improvement.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| • ensure at least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate is on the premises at all times when children are present | 17/09/2008 |
| • ensure that at least two adults are on duty at any time when children are present | 17/09/2008 |
| • provide a safeguarding children's policy | 01/10/2008 |
| • update the complaints procedure to include Ofsted contact details | 01/10/2008 |
| • plan and organise systems to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs. | 01/10/2008 |

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Some improvements have been made since the last inspection including providing a writing area for children. However, the balance of adult-led and freely chosen activities does not sufficiently challenge and extend learning for some children. The nursery has not completed any self-evaluation documents and has taken insufficient action to promote improvement. Some information is provided for parents, such as newsletters and a brochure. However, parents have not been consulted regarding the implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and links with other providers have not been fully established.

Children are not sufficiently safeguarded as two adults are not on duty at all times when children are present, and at least one member of staff who has a current paediatric first aid certificate is not on the premises at all times. In addition, a safeguarding children's policy is not in place, and the complaints procedure does not include Ofsted contact details. This compromises children's safety and welfare.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Staff are an established team that have worked together for some time. The premises are secure and risk assessments are in place, although these are not reviewed regularly. Staff talk to children about keeping safe through everyday activities. They provide healthy and nutritious meals and snacks and encourage healthy eating through organised activities. Children are provided with some satisfactory toys and resources. A key worker system is in place, however, parents are not aware of their children's key worker.

Activity planning covers areas of learning and some observations record children's achievements. However, planning of children's achievements and recording of observations are not linked to the stages of learning in the practice guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage. This means that every child does not receive an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs. This inhibits children's learning and development towards the early learning goals.

Children's independence is not sufficiently promoted within the nursery to enable children to become self-sufficient and independent learners. They have independent access to some areas, such as water and role play, however, overall activities are adult-led. Staff ask some open ended questions and provide some satisfactory adult-led activities. Children make marks in their 'All about me book'. They enjoy group story time but do not show an interest in books or link letters to sounds. Children use wooden blocks to print with paint onto triangular shaped paper at an adult-led activity. They do not have regular opportunities to enjoy dance, nursery rhymes and music. Children talk about their families and friends but do not have regular opportunities to show an interest in information and communication technology.

They enjoy playing outdoors on bicycles and scooters, and make patterns with large building blocks.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Inadequate
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Inadequate
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Inadequate

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Inadequate
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Inadequate
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Inadequate
How well are children safeguarded?	Inadequate

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Inadequate
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Inadequate
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Inadequate
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Inadequate
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Inadequate
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Inadequate

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website:
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

Ofsted received concerns related to safeguarding children. An Ofsted inspector visited the nursery on 1 July 2008 in order to investigate the concern. As a result of this visit three actions were raised requiring the registered person to update their child protection policy in line with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, ensure that policy details action to be taken in the event of an allegation about a staff member, and to ensure Ofsted is notified of any significant events. The registered provider has sent a written response to confirm that these actions have now been met. The provider remained suitable for registration at the time the investigation was closed.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.