

Wise Owls Nursery

Warlingham Rugby Club, Limpsfield Road, Warlingham, Surrey, CR6 9RB

Inspection date	08/12/2014
Previous inspection date	04/10/2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	
	Previous inspection:	
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		4

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is inadequate

- The provider fails to keep the premises secure to protect children from unauthorised persons entering the nursery. This puts children's welfare at significant risk.
- The provider does not identify and assess risks to children on the premises and reasonable steps to remove or minimise them.
- The staff lack understanding of safeguarding and the policy and procedure in place do not reflect Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures. This means that children's safety and welfare cannot be assured.
- The provider's systems for supervising staff are weak, which means underperformance is not being tackled to improve the quality of the nursery for children.
- Staff consistently over-direct children during creative activities, hindering their opportunities to express themselves creatively through art and design.
- Records and information relating to children are not kept secure to maintain confidentiality and the provider does not display the certificate of registration as required.
- The provider does not routinely evaluate practice to identify weaknesses in order to safeguard children and drive improvement in the quality of the nursery provision.

It has the following strengths

- The nursery promotes positive partnerships with parents.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views about the nursery.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed children and staff as they played.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability, policies and procedures and children's records. [*1]Comma DONE
- The inspector spoke to children and staff.

Inspector

Andrea Ulett

Full report

Information about the setting

Wise Owls Nursery registered in 2001 and relocated to its current premises in 2006. It is a privately owned nursery and operates from Warlingham Football and Rugby Club, in Warlingham, Surrey. The nursery operates from a main hall and there is access to an outdoor play area, including a tennis court. Children attend from the local community.

The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register. There are currently 27 children on roll, who attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery is open from 8.30am to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and from 8.30am to 12.45pm on Wednesday and Friday, term time only. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. There are five members of staff who work at the nursery, four of whom have relevant childcare qualifications.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take the following enforcement action.

We will issue a welfare requirements notice requiring the provider to:

ensure there are rigorous procedures in place to maintain the security of the premises and to prevent the entry of unauthorised persons

train all staff to understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, including who to contact in the event of an allegation against a member of staff

devise and implement an appropriate safeguarding policy and procedure in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures.

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

- take all reasonable steps to ensure that children are not exposed to risks, in particular the risks associated with building work on the premises
- implement rigorous supervision systems for staff to monitor their performance, to identify and discuss any issues and tackle underperformance
- ensure children are provided with consistent opportunities to be imaginative and explore different media and materials to express their own ideas and creativity
- ensure that confidential information and records about children are stored securely and are only accessible and available to those who have a right or professional need to see them
- display the registration certificate at all times.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The nursery provides children with an adequate range of activities across the areas of learning. The quality of teaching is adequate and children make sound progress in their development in preparation for school. Children enjoy learning through play at the nursery and move around freely. However, the educational programme for expressive arts and design does not provide children with consistent opportunities to explore different media

and materials by themselves. This is because staff direct children excessively and do not allow them to share their own ideas. At the inspection, children were busy making Christmas cards, but the over-direction by staff hindered children's opportunities to paint freely or practise writing for a purpose. Consequently, there was no individuality to children's finished cards and this affects how well they are able to use their own imaginations and creative ideas.

During the inspection, children enjoyed singing songs together, including Christmas songs. This provided them with opportunities to extend their communication and language skills. Children listened well at story times and staff asked useful questions to stimulate discussions, such as by asking, 'What do you think will happen next?' This enabled children to extend the vocabulary. Although access to the outdoor area is restricted at present due to building work, children had fun during the inspection as they played a game of 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' They practised their counting skills, worked together as a group and learnt how to follow instruction from staff. These are some of the key skills needed for school.

Staff establish children's starting points for learning through regular observations and discussions with parents. This helps them build up a picture of what their key children can do and are interested in. Therefore, staff are able to base each child's learning and development goals appropriately. Staff provide parents with end-of-term reports, giving them details about their plans for supporting children's learning over the next term. This also helps to involve parents further in their children's learning and development.

The nursery has sound parent partnerships. As a result, children are confident, happy and enjoy coming into the nursery daily. Parents are informed appropriately about the progress their child makes. Staff inform parents about what is happening at the nursery through daily verbal communication and newsletters.

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

The provider fails to take sufficient action to protect children's well-being in the nursery, and is breaching a number of safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This affects children's safety and well-being. Other users of the building are able to enter the nursery unannounced, and work people are also able to enter the nursery without authorisation. This means children are not safe as they are not being protected from unvetted adults. Staff are not vigilant and aware of all risks to children, which compromises their safety. For example, there are several rooms within the premises, which, although not used by the nursery, are accessible to children. The provider does not prevent children being able to access the other areas. During the inspection, a rope used to dry children's artwork on was hanging at a level which presented a risk to children's safety. The provider had not identified this as part of the nursery's ongoing risk assessment, but took immediate steps to remove the rope so that it no longer presented a hazard.

Staff's positive relationships with children enable each child to feel secure. Therefore, this

makes it easy for children to express their feelings, such as when they are upset and when they do something they want their key person to see. Staff teach children about keeping themselves safe through day-to-day activities and through simple reminders. Children behave appropriately and learn to respond to requests from staff, such as not running indoors, so they keep safe. The children use good manners, developing important personal and social skills. Children show through their behaviour that they are comfortable and familiar with the nursery's daily routines and they learn important self-care skills. For example, children take their shoes off on the carpet after snack as they know they are going outside and need to put their wellington boots on, which staff bring out to them on a trolley.

Staff generally help children to develop awareness about hygiene practices and a healthy lifestyle. Staff encourage parents to provide healthy foods for their child's packed lunches. They sit with children at the table, discussing foods and which of these are good for us. Children enjoy the social aspects of snack and mealtimes, and they use past experiences to discuss foods they like and do not like. As a result, children begin to develop self-awareness and confidence.

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

There are significant weaknesses in leadership and management and in the quality of the nursery provision, which compromise the safety and well-being of children. For example, the provider does not maintain the premises securely to prevent unauthorised access by adults who have not been vetted. Ineffective use of risk assessment means children are exposed to unnecessary risks within the nursery and the premises as a whole. The provider does not update the nursery's safeguarding policies and procedures to make sure they reflect current requirements and guidelines in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board. In addition, staff have a poor understanding of the nursery's safeguarding and child protection procedures that they must follow in the event of a child protection concern. They also lack awareness of the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk. This compromises children's welfare.

The provider does not implement rigorous ways to effectively monitor staff performance and drive improvement within the nursery. This means the provider and staff are unable to identify areas for development or training to support staff to improve their skills. Consequently, the quality of the nursery provision and the outcomes for children are poor.

Self-evaluation is weak and has too little impact on improving outcomes for children. The provider is not sufficiently ambitious in driving improvement. She has not updated the nursery's self-evaluation for some time to identify strengths and target areas that need improving. Consequently, the provider has not identified or addressed the breaches in legal requirements. At the last inspection, the outdoor area was identified as an area requiring improvement. This is now being developed to provide children with more purposeful outdoor play. The nursery was also asked to develop the observation and assessment system. These systems are now working adequately and children's learning

records reflect that children are making adequate progress towards the early learning goals from their initial starting points. However, the educational programme for expressive arts and design require improvement. Staff over-direct children during creative activities, meaning children are unable to freely explore different media and materials.

The provider maintains some documentation appropriately, but she does not make sure that all required records are easily accessible and available for inspection, as required. Evidence of staff's suitability to work with children is in place and the register of attendance is maintained appropriately. However, personal information about children is on display in a public area. This means the provider is failing to maintain confidentiality adequately, which compromises children's welfare. In addition, the provider does not display the certificate of registration, which is a legal requirement. This is because she is unable to locate the most up-to-date certificate.

The staff take appropriate steps to ensure they work together with external agencies, such as speech and language therapists, to support and meet children's specific needs. Staff ensure they communicate regularly with parents and professionals to develop individual learning plans for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps staff to support all children to make progress in their learning and development.

The nursery has positive partnerships with parents. They keep them well informed about the nursery and their child's learning, which has a positive impact on the children's well-being. The staff communicate in a friendly and respectful way with parents, giving them daily feedback about their children's individual needs and what they have been doing during the day.

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. We re-inspect nurseries and pre-schools judged as requires improvement within 12 months of the date of inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		There were no children present at the time of the inspection. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		There were no children present at the time of the inspection. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333354
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	828215
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Mary Marsden and Michelle Flegg Partnership
Date of previous inspection	04/10/2010
Telephone number	07703272789

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Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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