

Sunnyside Nursery School

Whitechurch Lane, Henstridge, Somerset, BA8 0PA



Inspection date

27 January 2015

Previous inspection date

2 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The nursery premises have not been made sufficiently secure to prevent unauthorised persons entering, or children leaving, the premises unsupervised. This puts children at risk.
- Staff do not review risk assessments sufficiently to ensure that all hazards are identified and minimised. This compromises children's safety and well-being.
- Staff do not maintain an accurate record of children's actual hours of attendance so they know who is present and can keep them safe.
- Staff do not always plan activities and deploy themselves effectively so they can consistently promote the learning needs of all children. Consequently, not all children progress well in their learning.
- Staff have not fully developed ways of using information shared with parents so they can fully promote children's development from the outset.
- The organisation of some larger group activities does not fully involve and engage all children. Therefore, some children do not always benefit from these activities.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are caring and friendly. Children feel valued and settle easily to play.
- Staff create a bright and welcoming play environment. They provide well-maintained resources and a suitable range of purposeful play experiences to promote children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve security systems to prevent persons entering the nursery unsupervised, or children leaving unaccompanied
- improve risk assessments to ensure all necessary measures are taken to identify and minimise risks to children, with particular regard to access to the kitchen area
- ensure an accurate record of children's hours of attendance is maintained at all times
- improve staff deployment so that every child receives the help they need and so that they are provided with appropriately challenging play experiences.

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

- make more use of information shared with parents regarding their child's development to fully promote children's learning from when they first attend
- review the organisation of some large-group activities to fully promote the participation and interest of all children.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- ensure children are unable to leave and no one can enter the premises without the knowledge of a person caring for children on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure all necessary measures are taken to minimise any risks to children's safety (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure a daily record of the names of the children looked after and their hours of attendance is maintained (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure children are unable to leave and no one can enter the premises without the knowledge of a person caring for children on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure all necessary measures are taken to minimise any risks to children's safety (voluntary part of the Childcare register)
- ensure a daily record of the names of the children looked after and their hours of attendance is maintained (voluntary part of the Childcare register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and interactions, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies and procedures and required records.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken with at the visit.
- The inspector held meetings with the owner/manager and spoke with staff and children during the visit.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Staff provide a wide variety of activities based on children's interests and next steps for learning. However, staff do not always deploy themselves effectively when there are too many activities that require adult support. This means staff do not always provide all children with the help they need. Consequently, some children lose interest and motivation in their play. Nevertheless, children make adequate progress overall. Staff read children's favourite stories and children enjoy acting these out. This encourages children's early literacy awareness and develops their imaginative ideas. Staff encourage children's communication and mathematical skills well through effective questioning. At times, staff do not organise large group activities well. For example, children did not have enough space to sit comfortably at circle time. Sometimes they became restless when there was a lot of waiting between turns. Staff form positive partnerships with parents and keep them well informed of their children's achievements. However, staff do not always use information from parents to help them plan children's learning when they first attend. Parents comment that their children enjoy attending and staff make them very welcome.

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

Children's safety is compromised as the entrance to the playroom is not secure. Children can leave and unauthorised persons can enter unnoticed. In addition, children can go into the kitchen unsupervised because the door is not secured. Nevertheless, staff supervise children well and teach them about road safety and staying safe indoors. Staff promote good behaviour through frequent praise and positive role modelling. Children learn to respect others and play cooperatively. Staff promote children's good health and physical skills well. Children exercise in the fresh air and learn to put on their boots and coats. This promotes children's confidence and independence and helps to prepare them for school.

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

The owner and staff do not provide a safe environment for children. They do not consistently record the hours of children's attendance which means they do not know who is present should an emergency occur. These weaknesses breach the requirements of the Childcare Register. Overall, the owner and staff have a suitable understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow to safeguard children's welfare. They have a positive attitude to developing their practice and professional development. For example, they have attended training and improved their knowledge of safeguarding since the last inspection. Staff reflect on the effectiveness of daily activities and monitor children's progress appropriately. Staff receive appropriate support from the owner to develop their practice through regular meetings, supervision and training.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142882
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	836634
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Amanda Bakewell
Date of previous inspection	2 June 2009
Telephone number	01963 362454

Sunnyside Nursery School registered in 1998. This privately owned nursery school is situated in Henstridge, Somerset. It is open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The owner/manager has Qualified Teacher Status and employs two staff, of whom one holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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