

Cherry Tree Nursery

5 Dixon Way, LINCOLN, LN6 7XN



Inspection date

29 January 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Not applicable	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
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

- Children's safety is compromised, both inside and outdoors, because staff conduct ineffective risk assessments.
- The key-person system does not effectively support older children to ensure they settle, or help them become familiar with the setting.
- The organisation of routines, such as snack time and the use of the rooms downstairs, does not support children's individual needs and their learning.
- Staff do not use information obtained from observations to closely focus on older and more able children's next steps in their learning.
- Information obtained from some observations made by staff are not used to closely focus on older and more able children's next steps in learning.
- Not all staff are clear on how to consistently track older children's progress from their starting points. This means activities are not accurately planned to help them make good progress.
- The provider does not maintain an accurate record of accidents. This means children's welfare is not assured.
- Information about menus and food is not consistently shared with parents. Also, some of the systems used to share information with parents are not embedded.

It has the following strengths

- The quality of teaching in the baby room is a strength of the setting. Staff plan relevant activities, which support babies' exploratory and sensory development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure risk assessments are rigorously completed and action is swiftly taken to minimise all hazards to children, with particular regard to the fire place and radiator in the baby room, the staircase inside and the compost storage outside
- improve the key-person system, so that all children who are less able to communicate their needs have a secure bond with a significant person in the setting immediately, with whom they can build and develop a relationship over time
- keep a written record of accidents
- ensure parents are accurately informed of the daily menu and the food offered to children
- ensure the space and resources downstairs are organised in a way that effectively meets the different learning needs and routines for all children
- improve staff's knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements to ensure that all teaching is effective and supports children, as they develop skills in preparation for school
- use information obtained from observing children to understand their level of achievement, and plan learning experiences for each child based on those observations to help older and more able children make the best possible progress in their learning and development
- ensure robust assessment is used consistently from when a child first starts, to monitor children's learning and development and plan appropriate next steps and challenging activities that shape learning experiences for each child.

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

- improve snack time to ensure it does not interrupt children's play and learning, for example, by introducing a staggered snack time so that children are able to finish their chosen task to their satisfaction
- make better use of the systems used for sharing information with parents with particular regard to their child's development.

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

- ensure a record of accidents which occur on the premises where childcare is provided is maintained (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure a record of accidents which occur on the premises where childcare is provided is maintained (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on all children's learning, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She also held a meeting with owner and manager of the provision.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation, menus, accident records and children's assessment records. She also checked evidence of the suitability of all staff, including the owner of the provision.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.

Inspector

Judith Rayner

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is inadequate

Older and more able children do not make good progress in their learning. Despite staff holding appropriate childcare qualifications, they do not have a secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Planning and assessment are weak, which means children's learning targets are not precise. Staff do not use their skills to consistently extend and challenge children in their play. This means that older children do not acquire the skills they need to be ready to go to school. Children's imaginative play with a range of cardboard resources is interrupted because of the organisation of snack time. This prevents them from extending their learning and playing cooperatively with their friends. On occasions, staff make use of children's interests, such as bouncing balls in bubble wrap. Babies make good progress. They explore independently and show enjoyment while looking at books and building with construction bricks.

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

The key-person system is not fully developed because older children lack support and effective supervision from staff. This has a negative impact on children developing a secure bond with a significant person. Staff do not ensure children are safe and babies are at risk of harm. Hazards have not been minimised, such as a hot radiator and a fire place that is not fixed securely to the wall. Children enjoy healthy meals, which meet their dietary requirements. However, menus displayed for parents do not provide accurate information about the meals provided for children. Children learn appropriate hygiene practice, to keep them healthy and to stop germs from spreading. Nappies are disposed of quickly and are removed from the premises. Staff praise children on their achievements, which helps children's self-esteem and confidence develop. Children enjoy outdoor play. They learn how to collect eggs safely from the chickens.

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

Leadership and management are ineffective. The provider does not monitor staff performance to ensure that the quality of teaching is good throughout the setting. Accidents highlighted by staff are not recorded and risk assessments are not robust, which has an impact on children's safety. The provider understands about notifying Ofsted of any changes regarding the suitability of adults. All electronic equipment, including the setting's mobile phones and cameras, are used safely and remain on the premises to protect children. Ratios are maintained well. Staff talk to parents about what their children have played with. They sometimes encourage parents to contribute to their child's development records and a daily diary. The electronic system used to help parents and staff track children's progress is not embedded in practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY473227
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1004070
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	49
Name of provider	Roger Jennett
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07711170171 or 01522 530456

Cherry Tree Nursery opened in 2014 and is privately owned. It is situated close to Lincoln. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, from 8am until 6pm, except for bank holidays and for a week at Christmas. Of the nine staff, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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.

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