

Cedar Park Nursery

The Grange, 15 High Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8SX



Inspection date

3 March 2015

Previous inspection date

10 May 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Children's safety cannot be fully assured as risk assessments are not effectively used to identify exposed risks to them and Ofsted have not been informed of the current manager of the early years provision.
- Children are not always offered the correct pronunciation of words, in order to fully support the development of their speech and language skills.
- On occasions, children are not encouraged to do things for themselves, such as serving themselves at all mealtimes, to further promote their growing independence.

It has the following strengths

- Outside providers offer activities to promote physical development and introduce children to the French language. Children follow instructions, take turns and learn to value their friends contributions during show and tell activities. These experiences help them to acquire the basic skills needed as they move onto school.
- Appropriate partnerships with parents and staff's secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements contribute to children's individual care and learning. This supports them to make adequate progress. Staff gather information on home routines and what children know and can already do to support accurate starting points and continuity in the care that they receive.
- Staff offer children clear expectations for behaviour and arrange opportunities for them to socialise with a wide range of age groups in the nursery to support their developing relationships. As a result, children are kind to each other and behave appropriately.

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 used effectively to identify and remove all exposed risks to children.

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

- enhance children's developing speech and language skills, for example, by consistently modelling the correct pronunciation of words
- maximise opportunities for children to develop their skills for independence through everyday activities and tasks.

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

- inform Ofsted of the appointment of a new manager of childcare on non-domestic premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff in their care (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).
- inform Ofsted of the appointment of a new manager of childcare on non-domestic premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff in their care (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities in all the rooms used and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager. She talked with the manager and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled the nursery documentation, including improvement plans, policies, children's learning journals and registers.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions on the day and a selection of displayed cards.
- The inspector saw evidence of the qualifications and suitability of all persons working on the premises and some other documentation in relation to the safeguarding and welfare requirements. First-aid and safeguarding training certificates were viewed.

Inspector

Rachel Pepper

Inspection findings

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

Staff know children well and provide an engaging range of resources to ignite their imaginative play, such as through dressing-up and small construction materials. They support children of all ages to follow their interests and plan a good balance between adult-led and child-initiated topics. For example, 'people who help us' follows on from observations of children during role play. Staff assist children to recall and re-enact their own experiences, such as a visit to the hospital. Younger children enjoy sensory play using lights, materials and instruments while staff engage them in purposeful dialogue. On occasion, however, staff do not correctly pronounce words for children to further support their speech and language skills. Learning journals include up-to-date observations and assessments to ensure staff devise challenging next steps for each child. Parents express how happy they are with the progress their children have made and the information offered, so that they can continue the learning at home.

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

Children enjoy their time at nursery and seek support as needed from nearby staff. This shows how they have formed close relationships with the adults who care for them. Staff maintain ratios at all times and are deployed well as they monitor sleeping children to ensure individual care needs are met. There are additional rooms used for children when resting to ensure adequate space for each child. The manager monitors how younger children manage the curved staircase as part of her regular risk assessments. However, these have not effectively identified all potential risks to children. For example, in the garden, a broken plastic door leans against an outdoor storage unit, and gardening hand tools are accessible as they lay awaiting collection. Children enjoy a nutritious, balanced diet to promote their health and are encouraged to make decisions, such as if they would like a second helping. Staff remind children to wash their hands after using the toilet, supporting them to manage their own personal needs. However, on occasion, children's skills for independence are not encouraged as staff serve their food for them.

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

The manager aspires to improve and has enlisted the support of an early years consultant to further develop her ideas for change. Her improvement plans include introducing peer observations to maintain and enhance the good quality of teaching and using a tracking system to monitor children's overall progress. However, the provider has not yet informed Ofsted of the current manager of the provision. Nonetheless, the manager has an appropriate understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She records any accidents children have and follows a strict medicine procedure about which parents are fully informed. She has also established appropriate links with a special educational needs coordinator to focus on children needing additional support. Staff feel supported in their role and have access to regular training to improve the experiences for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY334634
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1007193
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	82
Number of children on roll	102
Name of provider	Cedar Park Schools Limited
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2010
Telephone number	0208 367 3800

Cedar Park Nursery was registered in 2006. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4, 11 at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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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