

Little Blossom Day Nursery

Ivydene, St. Fillans Road, LONDON, SE6 1DG



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

15 April 2015

16 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- At the beginning of the day, there are insufficient staff to maintain child-to-adult ratios. This is a breach of requirements of both the Early Years and Childcare Registers and does not support children's safety and well-being effectively.
- Some activities for babies are not sufficiently challenging to help them make good progress. This reflects a weakness in the quality of planning.
- The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Some staff do not always interact with the youngest children to promote their emerging communication and language skills.
- Staff do not pick the youngest children up safely. This puts children at risk of injury.
- The provider does not monitor the quality of teaching well enough to identify inconsistencies in staff practice or deploy staff effectively to ensure they meet all children's needs.

It has the following strengths

- Staff promote older children's independence skills well throughout the day. This prepares the children for their move to school.
- All staff implement positive and consistent strategies to manage children's behaviour. They work closely with parents to promote positive behaviour. Consequently, children behave well.
- Staff promote older children's learning and development well. As a result, these children make good progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure child-to-adult ratios are met at all times and particularly at the beginning of the day
- ensure staff are deployed to effectively to meet the individual needs of the babies and youngest children
- ensure young children are handled correctly when being picked up, to prevent injuries
- improve the quality of teaching by ensuring that all staff interact consistently with the youngest children and use good quality questioning to promote language and encourage children's thinking, ideas and opportunities to solve problems independently
- improve the quality of planning to ensure activities are challenging enough to enable the youngest children to make good progress
- improve the monitoring of staff practice to ensure the quality of teaching is consistent throughout the nursery.

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

- ensure that a sufficient number of persons are present at all times on the premises to ensure the safety and welfare of the children for whom the childcare is provided (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that a sufficient number of persons are present at all times on the premises to ensure the safety and welfare of the children for whom the childcare is provided (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main playrooms and the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the provider and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed suitability documents, children's development files and early years reports.
- The inspector gathered views from parents and carers.

Inspector

Rebecca Hurst

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a secure bond with their key children, which helps them to settle well. Staff provide activities to meet the older children's individual needs. Older children enjoy practising their early writing skills. For example, they use shaving foam to practise writing their names. Staff praise them for their work, building their self-esteem and confidence. Many staff interact well with the older children and use questioning effectively to promote discussion. Staff nurture older children's independence skills as they are confident in dressing and undressing themselves and choosing their own play. This helps children to be prepared for their move on to school. However, in the baby room, staff do not challenge the children to promote their learning and development. Some staff are quiet and do not extend children's developing language. They ask questions, requiring only a 'yes' or 'no' response, that do not encourage children to think, respond or develop their vocabulary. For example, staff do not talk to children about how they are completing puzzles. Staff are not fully aware of younger children's levels of development and do not plan challenging activities which meet children's needs and enable them to make good progress.

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

Children enjoy playing in the garden, promoting their physical development. Children learn how to keep themselves safe through practising regular fire drills. When children use large climbing equipment staff talk to the children about how they can keep themselves and their friends safe. However, staff do not always use effective care practices. They do not handle the youngest children safely when they pick them up and risk injuring them. Older children have good opportunities to develop their self-care skills. They serve their own meals and regularly go back to help themselves to more food.

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

The provider does not meet ratios at the beginning of the day, even when they group children together. This does not ensure staff meet children's needs at all times. The provider checks staff suitability and provides them with regular supervision meetings and appraisals. She reviews the practice of the staff and identifies some training needs, including planning and food hygiene. Although the provider has identified some inconsistencies in the quality of teaching, she has not addressed this by deploying staff effectively to meet all children's individual needs, in particular the babies. All staff have a clear understanding of safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures. They know what to do if they have any concerns about a child's well-being. They work in partnership with parents to exchange information about children's progress. Staff value parents' views when they evaluate the provision and look at ways to improve the service.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY370387
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	981040
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	43
Name of provider	Bolanle Oladokun and Adekunle Oladokun Partnership
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2014
Telephone number	0208 697 5990

Little Blossom Day Nursery registered in 2008. It operates from a converted house. The nursery is situated in Catford, within the London Borough of Lewisham. The opening hours are 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, throughout the year but closes for one week in August and one week over Christmas. There are eight staff working with the children. Seven hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the provider who has attained Early Years Professional Status.

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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