

Little Crystals Day Nursery

49 Maberley Road, London, SE19 2JE



Inspection date

10 April 2015

Previous inspection date

31 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		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:

- The provider has not ensured that the available floor space in the baby room is adequate for the number of babies they care for. Consequently, babies are unable to develop their walking skills because there is not enough room for them to walk and move around freely.
- Partnerships with parents are poor. Staff fail to share information with parents regarding children's learning and development, including how ready children are for school.
- The safeguarding policy does not contain details regarding the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting, or the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation made against a member of staff.
- Staff do not make full use of the garden during the day to maximise the time children have to play outside and enjoy the fresh air.
- Group activities are not always sufficiently resourced to enable children to become fully involved and engaged.
- The provider does not have an effective self-evaluation procedure to identify the setting's strengths and weaknesses. Consequently, breaches in the legal requirements are not identified.

It has the following strengths

- Children form strong relationships with the staff. This allows them to feel happy and secure and supports their emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that the overall floor space is suitable for the number of babies cared for at any one time, to enable them to play, explore and develop their walking skills
- ensure information is regularly shared with parents to keep them informed of their children's progress, in order to promote a shared approach to children's learning and development, and enable parents to support their children in their move to school
- ensure the safeguarding policy includes action to be taken in the event an allegation is made against a member of staff, and the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting.

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

- review the organisation and range of resources available to children during group activities to consistently engage and interest them
- maximise the use of the garden during the day to increase the time available for children to play outside
- review the self-evaluation systems in order to identify strengths and address key weaknesses, developing concise action plans to plan improvements and raise outcomes for children.

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

- ensure the safeguarding policy includes action to be taken in the event an allegation is made against a member of staff, and the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that the overall floor is suitable for that childcare (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure the safeguarding policy includes action to be taken in the event an allegation is made against a member of staff, and the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that the overall floor is suitable for that childcare (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, and had discussions with staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff, children's records and planning documentation.
- The inspector spoke with some parents to gain their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager.

Inspector

Petra Myatt

Inspection findings

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

The staff encourage children to explore the many activities they provide. Consequently, children are progressing well in their learning and development. For example, children are able to count the days of the week and match their photograph to their written name. This helps to prepare children for the next stage of their learning or the move to school. However, staff do not always provide enough resources and opportunities for children to fully take part in group activities. Consequently, children are not always fully engaged and interested. Staff fail to share information with parents about their children's learning and development. This means that parents are not aware of their children's learning and development progress, or how ready their children are for school. In addition, staff do not suggest ideas and activities to enable parents to support children's learning at home. Children learn new vocabulary because staff introduce words during play, such as 'empty' and 'full' when playing in the water. This helps children to understand the concept of what is happening, to support their mathematical development.

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

Children have good relationships with staff, which helps to support their well-being. Staff encourage children to be independent at mealtimes because all children, including babies, are able to learn how to feed themselves. Children share resources and take turns, respecting each other because staff use consistent behaviour management strategies. Staff take children into the garden on a daily basis to enable them to develop their physical skills and enjoy being in the fresh air. However, staff do not plan daily routines effectively to maximise the opportunities for children to be outside. Consequently, some groups of children, particularly the babies, are unable to play outside until the afternoon.

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

Staff understand their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children. However, written safeguarding policies do not include the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting or the procedures to follow should there be an allegation against a member of staff. The provider has not ensured that the floor space in the baby room is sufficient for the number of babies they care for at any one time. This means that babies are unable to freely move about, which hinders their play and the development of important physical skills, such as walking. The management has self-evaluation procedures that include the views of parents. However, these are not effective because the breaches of legal requirements have not been identified.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137236
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	841223
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	Crystal Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	31 May 2011
Telephone number	020 8771 0393

Little Crystals Day Nursery opened in 1994. It is part of the Crystal Childcare Limited group of nurseries. The nursery operates from the ground floor of a semi-detached house, situated in the London Borough of Bromley. The nursery is open five days a week for 50 weeks a year. The nursery employs six members of staff, all of whom have relevant early years qualifications.

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