

Blooming Babies Day Nursery Limited



St. Cleres School, Butts Lane, STANFORD-LE-HOPE, Essex, SS17 0NW

Inspection date

9 April 2015

Previous inspection date

13 May 2014

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

- Staff do not always carry out thorough health and safety checks at the start of each day, to ensure that all the potential risks to children are minimised or removed before children arrive.
- The quality of teaching is variable as the new systems for planning and assessment have not been fully embedded. This means that the activities provided for older children during the school holidays are sometimes mundane and offer limited challenge.
- The programme to support staff performance is not totally effective as weaknesses are not always swiftly addressed. As a result, children experience some inconsistencies in staff practice, which affects their overall progress.

It has the following strengths

- Babies and children develop secure attachments with the caring and friendly staff. As a result, they are confident, develop positive social skills and enjoy their time in the nursery.
- Staff have positive links with parents. Parents are involved in their children's learning, contribute to progress reports and are beginning to share what their children do at home. Parents say they are very happy with the service they receive.
- Care practices are effectively organised to ensure that children develop independence and a sense of responsibility. For example, the older children pour their own drinks and serve their food at mealtimes.

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 risk assessment of the premises is consistently applied, with particular regard to more robust completion of the early morning safety checks, and by making sure that the playrooms are clean and ready for children before they arrive
- ensure that staff consistently use their observational assessments to plan and deliver interesting and motivating experiences to inspire the older children to learn as much as they can throughout the year.

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

- strengthen further the monitoring and evaluation of staff practice, to ensure that weaknesses in relation to teaching and learning are addressed with more urgency.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, manager, staff, children and a local authority adviser.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the children's development records.
- The inspector saw evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff, self-evaluation, risk assessment, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from their responses to surveys organised by the nursery.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

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

Since the last inspection, staff have attended training to help them improve their teaching practice and become more confident in their interactions with children. As a result, children are keen to learn and they are beginning to think critically and express themselves creatively. The layout in the playrooms is constantly reviewed to ensure children can easily select their resources and make decisions in their play. Adult-led tasks are generally well planned to ensure that children steadily develop the skills they need for future learning, and in readiness for starting school. For example, children are encouraged to count objects, explore shapes and record their findings. However, staff are not consistently using their observations of what children can already do, to plan motivating experiences during the school holidays. This means that older children are not always challenged to reach their full potential.

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

Babies and children are confident due to the suitable settling-in process. Time is taken by key persons to establish relationships and obtain useful information from parents about children's general care needs, home practices and routines. The baby room is clean, bright and welcoming and has recently been refurbished. Healthy lifestyles are appropriately promoted. Children enjoy freshly cooked, nutritious meals and snacks. Outdoor activities ensure that children benefit from exercise and fresh air, throughout the year. Children learn to keep themselves safe. For example, they know they need to wear sunscreen to prevent their skin burning in warm temperatures. However, risk assessments by staff are not always robust, particularly at the start of the day. This sometimes means that the main playroom is not safely organised or clean, when older children arrive. However, there is no evidence that the children are at a significant risk of harm, as the staff are responsive and react promptly when any omissions are pointed out by the manager.

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

The management of the nursery has a sound understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Safeguarding is mainly effective. Staff know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Robust recruitment procedures ensure the most suitable staff are employed. Management positively welcome advice and support from the local authority, to help identify areas for further improvements in staff performance. As a result, the actions from the last inspection have been addressed reasonably well. The provider has only recently taken on more management responsibilities herself, to implement changes for the benefit of the children. The planning and assessment process has been revised to ensure that staff are starting to identify children's key learning priorities. The provider has also recently started closely monitoring the learning of every child in the nursery to ensure that no child gets left behind. However, little time has passed to ensure the changes are fully embedded into practice, so it is too early to determine whether children are making better than steady progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423109
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	976851
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	Blooming Babies Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2014
Telephone number	07957 158890

Blooming Babies Day Nursery Limited was registered in 2011 and is one of two settings run by the same provider. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or 4. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Opening hours are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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