

Little Swanswell Nursery

Cornerstone Family Centre, Howard Street, Coventry, CV1 4GE



Inspection date

21 April 2015

Previous inspection date

10 March 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

- The provider has not followed required safeguarding procedures that are outlined in the nursery's safeguarding policy. This compromises the safe and efficient management of the provision.
- The provider has not informed the Disclosure and Barring Service that a member of staff has been dismissed for harming a child.
- The quality of teaching is inadequate. There is a lack of meaningful adult-led activities to challenge and promote children's learning. Consequently, children are not supported sufficiently to make as much progress as they can.
- Staff do not make the best use of available resources or the outdoor learning environment. Consequently, children are not provided with good quality learning experiences to keep them motivated and engaged. Opportunities to find things out for themselves are limited.
- The provider's self-evaluation procedures are not robust enough. An action raised at the previous inspection with regard to teaching has not been satisfactorily addressed and this restricts learning opportunities for children.
- Monitoring of the educational programmes is not sufficiently embedded in practice. This restricts opportunities to identify and take steps to improve staff members' practice.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use the knowledge gained on recent training to promote children's communication and language development appropriately.
- Children are emotionally secure. Relationships between staff and children are positive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make sure that required safeguarding procedures for when an allegation is made against a staff member are always followed
- ensure that the Disclosure and Barring Service is informed if a member of staff is dismissed because they have harmed a child or put a child at risk of harm
- ensure the quality of the teaching methods used by the staff results in children being involved in activities that inspire and engage them so that they are challenged to make best progress
- make sure that resources, indoors and outdoors, are used effectively so that children are able to explore and investigate different media, 'have a go' and find things out for themselves.

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

- develop procedures for self-evaluation to ensure targets for improvement are based on rigorous monitoring of practice, and improve processes to monitor the delivery of the educational programmes, including the quality of teaching.

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

- keep and implement a written record of policies and procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that the lead practitioner liaises with any local Safeguarding Children Board and Director of Children's Services as appropriate (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider/manager of the setting. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted observations of the activities and evaluated the teaching methods with the provider/manager.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff members' suitability, qualifications and training.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers.

Inspector

Jan Burnet

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is poor. Staff do not satisfactorily plan and provide activities that inspire, interest and challenge all children. Consequently, children's learning does not sufficiently build on what they already know and can do. Children are not encouraged to explore, investigate and find things out for themselves. In the baby room, the focus of a painting activity is for the babies to produce hand prints that staff will then use to create flowers for a wall display. One baby at a time sits at a table, a staff member paints their hands and when they have patted a piece of paper a few times they are told that they have finished. There is no recognition of the babies' wanting to grasp the paint brush or explore the paint with their hands. Toddlers are invited to sit with a staff member and stick pieces of collage on to paper that has been cut into the shape of ladybirds. There is plenty of table-top space but they are not provided with any other media or materials to explore and investigate. Pre-school children enjoy using their hands to mix paint and staff support them in identifying the colours they are creating. However, children then decide to explore what will happen when they place their hands in the water tray. They say that they have turned the water grey, but staff ask them to stop because they are turning the water dirty. Overall, teaching is not good enough to ensure that children are prepared well for school.

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

The play environment is safe and clean. Required policies linked to health, safety and safeguarding have been drawn up, although identified safeguarding procedures have not been followed by the provider. This has a negative impact on children's well-being. A policy identifies that positive reinforcement is the main strategy for managing behaviour. Children are observed to behave well. They are physically active and staff ensure that climbing, sliding and balancing equipment, and ride-on toys are provided. However, the outdoor area is not used effectively to promote other areas of learning. Children are happy and settled. Parents provide clear information on their child's care needs. Children's good health is promoted because they eat nutritious meals and snacks. Emerging independence is encouraged appropriately. For example, pre-school children serve their own meals.

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

Staff are satisfactorily aware of their responsibilities with regard to supervising children to protect them from harm. This inspection followed information sent to Ofsted that raised concerns about safeguarding procedures. A clear safeguarding policy includes the required procedure for if an allegation is made against a member of staff. However, this procedure has not been followed by the provider. The policy states that allegations will be investigated by the Local Authority Designated Officer, but the provider has investigated an allegation herself. She has dismissed a staff member but she has not met a requirement to inform the Disclosure and Barring Service of this. Suitable procedures for recruitment, selection and induction are identified. Vetting procedures for staff are in

place. Children's welfare is addressed because staff keep their first-aid and food hygiene knowledge up to date. The provider explains that a representative of the local authority has advised staff on effective teaching and learning. A recently appointed deputy is qualified to degree level and she has begun to observe practice in order to improve teaching. This is not yet having a positive enough impact. Evidence gathered at this inspection identifies that the quality of teaching has not improved since the last inspection.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY414744
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	973080
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	61
Number of children on roll	76
Name of provider	Paradise Mobile Creche Ltd
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2014
Telephone number	02476 633 899

Little Swanswell Day Nursery was registered in 2010. It employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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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