

Bright Star Pre-School

Seven Kings Methodist Church, Balmoral Gardens, ILFORD, Essex, IG3 8DH



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

1 April 2015

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Not applicable	4
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 does not fully understand, or implement, all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, there are a number of breaches of the requirements, some of which also apply to the Childcare Register.
- The provider does not provide evidence of the suitability of all staff, and staff whose suitability has not been verified are left alone with children. In addition, staff do not implement risk assessments effectively. These weaknesses compromise the safety of children.
- Staff deployment and supervision are not effective during sessions. This means that children's learning and development needs are not fully met, as staff do not always take advantage of teaching opportunities and they do not effectively help children to manage their own behaviour.
- Staff do not always provide a choice of items for children to choose from for their snacks.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use snack time well to promote children's communication skills in small groups.
- The manager and staff develop good partnerships with parents and share information effectively. The manager welcomes parents into the setting to take part in activities with their children. This approach supports children's continuity of care.
- Staff provide a variety of resources for children to choose from. These cover all areas of learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that effective procedures are implemented so that any person, whose suitability has not been verified, does not have unsupervised contact with children
- improve staff deployment arrangements to provide more supervision and consistency of care for children throughout the sessions so that children are safe, their learning and development needs are met, and children are supported as they learn to manage their own behaviour
- ensure that children's behaviour is well managed, to help them learn positive behaviours as they play
- ensure risk assessments are understood and implemented by all staff, with particular regard to safeguarding and children's use of the role-play construction area
- develop the quality of teaching by considering children's individual needs and interests in order to provide purposeful, challenging and enjoyable experiences in all areas of learning

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

- provide a variety of healthy options for children's snacks, so that they can make choices to fully develop their awareness of healthy eating.

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

- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any risks to the safety of the children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children's behaviour is consistently managed in a suitable manner, to help them learn positive behaviours as they play (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that effective procedures are implemented so that any person, whose suitability has not been verified, does not have unsupervised contact with children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any risks to the safety of the children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children's behaviour is consistently managed in a suitable manner, to help them learn positive behaviours as they play (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that effective procedures are implemented so that any person, whose suitability has not been verified, does not have unsupervised contact with children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector observed children as they played and took part in daily routines.
- The inspector sampled documentation including staff files and children's development folders.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents, staff and the manager at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Lesley Hodges

Inspection findings

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

Children's learning is not supported well enough because staff deployment is not effective. The frequency and quality of interactions between staff and children vary. As a result, staff do not engage with children to help them learn to manage their own behaviour effectively. In addition, staff do not engage children in purposeful play to extend their learning. Nevertheless, staff have sound knowledge of the areas of learning and set out resources attractively. They have an appropriate understanding of how to plan activities for individual children. Staff demonstrate that some small group and one-to-one activities are successful in extending children's counting and number recognition skills. Children are learning to recognise their names as they choose name cards on arrival. These activities help to prepare children for the move to school.

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

The manager is aware of hazards to children's safety, although staff do not always implement the risk assessments well enough. For example, the risk assessment for the construction role-play area requires staff to consistently supervise children's play, but, in practice, this does not always happen through poor staff deployment. This compromises children's safety and means that staff do not always manage children's behaviour well enough. All children have a key person who plans for their learning and speaks regularly with parents. During snack time, staff support children's knowledge of different fruits. However, children are not always offered a choice of items to eat. Children are learning self-care and independence skills as they pour their own drinks and clean their hands after snacks. Staff welcome children warmly and this gives children confidence to choose activities independently. The manager spends time with children who are new to the setting to help them settle and develop emotional well-being.

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

The inspection took place following information received that raised concerns about ratios. This also raised concerns about planning, educational programmes, staff qualifications, training and skills, staff suitability, first-aid training, risk assessment, key-person systems, staff deployment and supervision, managing behaviour and information for parents and carers. The inspection found that requirements for ratios and most of these other concerns were met, but that the provider was not deploying staff effectively to meet children's care and learning needs. Therefore, staff were not effectively supervising children. We found that the requirements for first-aid training were met, and that staff are suitably qualified and attend training courses to improve their knowledge and skills. We also found that there are suitable arrangements for sharing information with parents and carers. However, risk assessments and procedures were not effective in ensuring that adults whose suitability has not been verified, are not left alone with children. The

manager is unable to demonstrate the suitability of all staff. She checks Disclosure and Barring Service checks made by previous employers and identifies procedures to safeguard children until her own checks are completed. However, staff whose suitability is not verified, are left unsupervised with children which compromises children's safety. Staff have a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. They understand the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child. The manager observes staff practice and uses her knowledge to make constructive recommendations to improve their skills. She reviews all children's progress folders to check that staff are planning for individual children. Staff work with the advisor from the local authority to review practice and how young children access and use resources. As a result, staff have made changes to the role-play area to encourage children's imaginative play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464748
Local authority	Redbridge
Inspection number	1009911
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Bright Star Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07448527829

Bright Star Ltd registered in 2013. It operates from a church hall in Seven Kings, in the London Borough of Redbridge. The pre-school is open each weekday, between 9.30am and 12.30pm, term time only. There are four members of staff, three of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

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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