

# Pumpkin Patch Preschool

New Parks Boys Club, New Parks Boulevard, Leicester, LE3 9SB



## Inspection date

11 March 2015

## Previous inspection date

20 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 <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- At times, staff-to-child ratios are not met, which results in children not being adequately supervised. In addition, children's behaviour is not well managed by staff. Therefore, children's safety is compromised.
- The provider is unable to fully ensure children are safeguarded due to poor monitoring of the use of mobile phones.
- The daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises does not include their actual hours of attendance. This compromises the effective management of the provision.
- The quality of teaching is inadequate. Poor planning results in a lack of meaningful adult-led activities to challenge and support children's learning. Consequently, children do not make sufficient progress.

### It has the following strengths

- Healthy eating is encouraged at the pre-school. Parents are provided with information about good foods to provide for their children to eat at snack time.
- Children are learning self-care skills and becoming independent. Staff regularly encourage them to use the potty when they are toilet training.
- Children have fun playing in large open spaces in the pre-school's hall. They use climbing frames and slides, and play with large hoops as they run and chase one another.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that staff-to-child ratios are met at all times, so that children are well supervised and kept safe from harm
- make sure the use of mobile phones is monitored in the pre-school at all times
- ensure the daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises always includes their hours of attendance
- raise the quality of teaching by ensuring that planning provides children with purposeful adult-led activities that challenge and support them in making good progress in all areas of their learning.

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

- monitor staff's management of behaviour throughout the pre-school to ensure children receive consistent messages about the consequences of their actions, particularly in relation to keeping themselves and others safe.

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

- ensure a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance is maintained (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance is maintained (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the two playrooms.
- The inspector conducted observations of the activities.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

### Inspector

Hayley Lapworth

## Inspection findings

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

Children are not making sufficient progress in their learning and development. A lack of purposeful adult-led activities results in children not being appropriately challenged. Supervision of the children is poor and therefore they are not always engaged in their learning. However, when staff-to-child ratios are met, children enjoy some of their experiences. For example, they like to play with musical instruments. Staff encourage them to take turns and listen to the different sounds their instruments make. Therefore, children are learning to participate in groups and their personal and social skills are developing, in readiness for school. Staff work in partnership with parents to find out about their children's interests and stage of development when they first attend. Staff share some information about the children's achievements. Therefore, parents are kept informed and can support their children's learning at home.

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

Children's emotional development and their security and safety are compromised. At times, poor supervision of the children has a negative impact on their behaviour. Some staff talk to children about their expectations for good behaviour and take appropriate action to prevent them hurting one another. However, this approach to handling children's behaviour is not always consistently applied throughout the pre-school. Some staff simply tell the children 'no' when they present undesirable behaviour, for example, when children pile on top of one another. As a result, children are not always given consistent messages about how to behave. Children are beginning to learn about leading a healthy lifestyle as staff talk to them about foods that are good and not so good for their bodies. Children are learning some skills in their own self-care. Staff support them in using the bathroom and equipment, such as potties.

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

Leadership and management are inadequate as there are breaches in the legal requirements which significantly impact on children's safety, welfare and learning. Staff-to-child ratios are not consistently met and children are not always adequately supervised; the use of staff and parents' personal mobile phones is not carefully managed in the pre-school; records to be kept in relation to children's attendance are ineffective and the quality of the teaching is poor. In spite of these weaknesses, when the ratios are adjusted to meet requirements, practice sufficiently improves. There have been some changes in staff working at the pre-school and the manager is presently trying to recruit more staff. The current staff working directly with the children have an adequate understanding of how to safeguard children and respond to concerns. There is adequate capacity for improvement as the manager recognises both her and the new staff would benefit from attending training in safeguarding. Since the last inspection, staff have attended other training and welcomed support to improve the quality of teaching.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY471870
<b>Local authority</b>	Leicester City
<b>Inspection number</b>	981042
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	28
<b>Name of provider</b>	Zonya Marie Kilpatrick
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	20 June 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01162876904

Pumpkin Patch Preschool was registered in 2014. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday 9am to 12pm during term time only. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

