

Caring Kindergartens

Minerva Business Park, Lynch Wood, PETERBOROUGH, PE2 6FT



Inspection date

3 June 2015

Previous inspection date

21 April 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider has not ensured that the nursery's policies and procedures to safeguard children have been followed correctly.
- The provider has not ensured that agencies with statutory responsibilities have been notified, without delay, of allegations that are made against staff.

It has the following strengths

- There are wide-ranging activities with resources that are appropriate for children's stage of development. This engages children in various play activities, both inside and outside.
- Staff are caring and affectionate towards the children. This means that children are developing meaningful attachments, in particular with their key person. They are also developing relationships with their peers. This has a positive effect on their emotional well-being.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff use a good range of teaching strategies to support children's learning and development. As a result, children are making good progress in their learning and have developed the key skills needed to be ready for school.
- Effective partnerships with parents have been developed. This ensures that relevant care and learning information is shared consistently. This provides continuity in children's learning between the home and the nursery.
- Staff make accurate assessments of children's learning and have a good knowledge of their likes and dislikes. This enables them to plan interesting activities that are linked to children's next steps in learning and sustain their interest.
- The nursery values the importance of the outdoor environment. This provides children with regular opportunities to exercise and supports their physical development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take the following enforcement action:

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

ensure that the staff designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding children within the nursery have a clear understanding of their role, and that they implement the setting's policies and procedures for safeguarding and report appropriately without delay

ensure that the wider management team have a robust understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance and procedures and the setting's policies, so they can provide appropriate support, advice and guidance to staff.

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.
- The inspector observed activities in all the playrooms and the outdoor area.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked policies and evidence of the suitability of the staff, their qualifications, assessment records, self-evaluation and planning documents.
- The inspector held discussions with the children, staff and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager/provider.

Inspector

Ben Hartley

Inspection findings

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

Staff know the children well and use the environment effectively to plan a range of interesting activities that are linked to children's next steps and interests. This sustains children's interest and means they are consistently engaged in play. For example, a child enjoys 'being a teacher'. Staff facilitate this by providing her with a uniform, allowing her to complete 'paperwork' and take the lead in particular activities. Staff communicate well with children and involve themselves in play at appropriate times. Staff ask questions that further children's understanding and increase their vocabulary. This has a positive effect on children's communication and language development. Children are given opportunities to learn about other cultures and beliefs. Additionally, the staff value British culture and plan interesting experiences that enable children to learn more about this. Staff use the local environment to further children's experiences. Children 'hunt for treasure' in the area surrounding the nursery to further their learning about pirates. Nursery staff provide good support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This ensures that they make good progress in relation to their starting points.

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

There are significant weaknesses within the leadership and management of the setting. This compromises children's safety and well-being. Children's moves within the nursery are managed well by staff to ensure that all relevant information is passed on to their new key person. Children's care routines are organised effectively, according to their individual needs. Nappy changes are handled sensitively and children are provided with a quiet and comfortable area to sleep. Staff take positive steps to encourage children to learn about how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Children are provided with wide ranging, balanced and nutritious meals and snacks. Appropriate systems are followed to ensure that children's dietary requirements are met. Children lead their own play choices and can easily access resources. As a result, they are becoming increasingly independent learners. Staff are positive role models for children and deal with behaviour fairly and consistently. This means the learning environment is calm.

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

The nursery has a whistle-blowing policy and a safeguarding policy. However, these have not been followed when an allegation was made against a member of staff. The provider did not promptly notify agencies that have statutory responsibilities for safeguarding children. This means that the correct procedures were not followed, which compromises children's safety. Furthermore, it demonstrates that the provider does not have sufficient understanding about what procedures to follow in the event of safeguarding concerns being raised. The qualifications of the staff have a positive impact on the quality of teaching. Staff reflect on their practice and identify areas that can be developed further. This led to a remodelling of the outdoor area that enables children to have more consistent access.

Setting details

Unique reference number	256754
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1015584
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	112
Number of children on roll	159
Name of provider	Caring Kindergartens Limited
Date of previous inspection	21 April 2011
Telephone number	01733 361111

Caring Kindergartens was registered in 1996. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. One member of staff holds a qualification at level 5. The nursery is open from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and a week between Christmas and New Year. The nursery provides funded early education for two- three- and four-year-old children.

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