

Daffodils Nursery

58-60 Waterloo Road, Smethwick, B66 4JN



Inspection date

9 June 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 demonstrate a secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. Consequently, children's safety and welfare are compromised. Self-evaluation has not been effective in identifying areas where improvements are required, such as the educational programme and quality of teaching.
- Children are not effectively safeguarded because those with safeguarding responsibilities do not fully understand their roles. Staff have not received suitable training and policies and procedures are ineffective and not understood by all staff.
- Children's safety and good health are not promoted. The provider does not take prompt action to minimise hazards to children and arrangements for recording accidents and reporting these to parents are weak.
- Performance management is weak. Staff do not benefit from supervision and appraisals. Induction processes are not yet fully in place so that staff are supported to ensure a culture of continuous improvement is fostered.
- Staff have limited knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. They do not assess children's progress effectively. Activities do not cover the seven areas of learning. Children are not helped to make good progress because activities are not challenging and children lack enthusiasm for learning.
- The key-person system is not fully effective and staff do not effectively liaise with parents or with other professionals. As a result, partnerships to support children are not yet developed and parents are not supported to extend children's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- Staff have warm and caring relationships with the children at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that management and staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities with regard to meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and ensure this is consistently implemented
- improve safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure they reflect current requirements and provide training for all staff to ensure they have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues
- ensure that there is a suitably trained member of staff who takes overall responsibility for safeguarding children and provides others with guidance and support
- take action to ensure all reasonable steps are taken to keep children safe and demonstrate how risks are managed
- keep a written record of any accidents or injuries sustained by children and inform parents on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable, of any first-aid treatment given
- ensure all staff receive supervision, appraisals and inductions and introduce more effective methods of monitoring all aspects of the provision, in order to foster continuous improvement to effectively meet children's needs
- ensure that staff's knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements is improved and that the educational programme covers the seven areas of learning and activities provide adequate challenge for children so that they make good progress
- use observations to assess each child's level of achievement within the seven areas of learning and use this information to plan future challenging learning experiences for each child
- improve the key-person system to meet the needs of all children
- ensure all staff maintain a regular two-way flow of information with parents and other professionals to best promote children's care, learning and development needs
- ensure that management and staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities with regards to meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and ensure this is consistently implemented.

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

- implement an effective system to monitor and improve the overall quality of the provision.

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

- ensure all staff attend child protection training in order to identify and act on any indications that a child may be suffering from harm (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children attending the setting are kept safe from harm (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff at the setting (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of accidents that occur on the premises where childcare is provided (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children attending the setting are kept safe from harm (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff at the setting (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of accidents that occur on the premises where childcare is provided (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the setting with the manager.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about the provider.

Inspector

Kulwant Singh

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 not good enough. Observations and assessments of children are not fully effective. While next steps for children's learning are sometimes identified, these do not inform the activities that staff plan and provide. Activities do not cover all seven areas of learning and are not challenging enough for children. Resources available to children are limited and they often become bored and demonstrate a lack of enthusiasm for learning. Consequently, children do not make good enough progress in their learning. Staff fail to provide suitable activities for young children. For example, children in the baby room are given worksheets to colour in. Although they enjoy and engage in making marks for a short time, staff do not realise the inappropriateness of this activity for young children. This is because their knowledge of child development and how children learn is poor. Older children enjoy singing with staff and greet each other while also taking turns. Staff use images of shapes to try and teach children early mathematics. However, the activity is not adapted to the ages and abilities of the children taking part and children gain little from the experience. Older children enjoy taking part in some creative activities, such as colouring and sticking. However, staff fail to interact with children to best promote their learning. Staff do not effectively prepare children for their next stages of development and their eventual move to school. Little is done to work in partnership with other professionals to support children's needs. Parents receive too little information about their children's learning and how they can support their development at home.

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

Children sometimes display challenging behaviour. For example, they disengage and throw toys when they get bored. Staff do not always promote children's independence. Mealtimes are not well planned. For example, children are left waiting for their food to arrive and there are not enough knives and forks for all children to eat together. Consequently, some children have to wait for others to finish eating before they are able to begin their meal. However, a suitable menu of food is provided. The provider, manager and staff do not recognise the potential risks of shelves that are stacked with too many resources. This demonstrates that risk assessment is not effective. While children are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times, staff do not always help them to understand the reason why this contributes to a healthy lifestyle. Children benefit from fresh air and exercise in the outdoor play area. However, they do not engage in purposeful play that promotes their development. Overall, staff have warm and caring relationships with the children who attend the setting. However, the key-person system is not effective in ensuring staff work closely with parents to ensure children's needs are met. Arrangements for children to sleep and for changing their nappies in line with their needs are adequate. Children are supervised and adult-to-child ratios meet legal requirements. Written records are not always maintained for accidents and incidents that occur and parents do not always receive the required information.

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

The inspection was prioritised following concerns being raised about the provider's ability to ensure children's safety and welfare. Concerns were also raised in respect of the provider's ability to meet the learning and development requirements. The provider, manager and staff do not demonstrate a secure understanding of the legal requirements set out by the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, they fail to meet a number of these. The provider and manager are not effectively monitoring the quality of the setting and the educational programme. As a result, children are not effectively safeguarded and are not making good progress at the setting. The provider and manager do not monitor the teaching skills of staff. This means that they fail to identify weaknesses and areas in need of improvement. Likewise, they fail to identify, manage and minimise potential risks, which leaves some children at risk of harm. Safeguarding policies and procedures do not reflect current requirements and staff have not been provided with training in relation to safeguarding. As a result, staff have poor knowledge of how to protect children in the event of a child protection concern. In addition, there is no designated practitioner to take lead responsibility for safeguarding children within the setting. Partnerships with parents are not fully effective. For example, parental concerns are not always swiftly addressed because of the limited two-way flow of information. Arrangements to work in partnership with other professionals are not well established. Despite all staff holding appropriate qualifications, their understanding and ability to meet children's needs are weak. Ineffective systems of performance management mean that staff do not meet children's needs well enough. Induction arrangements do not ensure all staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities, and supervisions and appraisals are yet to take place for some staff. The provider and manager have overlooked many of the identified weaknesses. This demonstrates that arrangements to monitor the provision are weak.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY484035
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1016214
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	21
Name of provider	Daffodils Nursery Ltd.
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01215332694

Daffodils Nursery was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery 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.

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