

Acorns In Eldwick Limited

204 Swan Avenue, Eldwick, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 3PA



Inspection date

6 August 2015

Previous inspection date

25 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 failed to inform Ofsted of a change to the manager of the setting.
- Children's safety is compromised because staff are not fully aware of the procedures to follow if an allegation is made against a member of staff.
- Children's well-being is not fully assured because records of children's attendance are not always accurately recorded.
- Staff supervision sessions are in their infancy and do not identify the poor quality of teaching. Therefore, staff are not effective in extending and supporting children's learning.
- Some children are not assigned a key person, specifically in the older room.
- Staff do not always ensure that information relating to children is stored in a safe and confidential manner.
- The quality of teaching is varied, specifically in the older age group. Staff do not always engage children in high-quality interactions to maximise their development across the seven areas of learning.
- Planned activities are not linked to observations. The information gathered is not used frequently or precisely enough to plan a range of challenging and enjoyable activities to meet the specific learning needs of the children who attend. In addition, staff have a limited understanding about how to develop next steps in learning for children.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents, local schools and outside agencies are secure.
- Children behave well because staff implement consistent boundaries and routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure all staff are aware of the procedure to follow if allegations are made against a staff member
- ensure that accurate hours of attendance are recorded for all children, on all occasions
- ensure there are robust supervision arrangements that provide the manager and staff with a clear programme of support
- ensure that the key-person system is effective in offering a settled relationship for children, so that their care is tailored to meet their individual needs
- ensure all documentation regarding children is handled in a way that ensures confidentiality
- improve the quality of teaching to a consistently good standard by ensuring all staff improve interactions with children and consistently build on and extend children's ideas
- ensure that each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play, in order to fully support children's all-round learning and development
- improve staff's understanding of how to support children's next steps in learning.

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

- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises which includes their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of the appointment of a new manager (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises which includes their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of the appointment of a new manager (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed children and staff during a range of activities in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager in the baby room.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including planning, observations and assessment records. She also looked at a range of policies, evidence of the suitability of staff and first-aid qualifications.
- The inspector held discussions with the registered provider, the nominated person and the setting manager.

Inspector

Amanda Forrest

Inspection findings

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

The quality of staff interactions and teaching is variable. Not all staff extend children's learning; they do not always respond to children's ideas or encourage them to think for themselves. Although children play with a range of age-appropriate toys, too little emphasis is placed on teaching, specifically in the older age groups. Staff complete regular observations and assessments of the children but they do not know how to interpret this information to develop children's next steps in learning. Staff set unrealistic next steps for children and do not fully understand how to use the relevant guidance documents to support their practice and children's learning. This means too little consideration is given to purposeful planning across the seven areas of learning, which links to children's ages and stages of development. Overall, learning happens by chance and children do not make enough progress.

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

Children's well-being is compromised as the manager has failed to implement an effective key-person system in the older age group. This is particularly evident when there is a change in staffing and during extended holiday periods. This means that children's learning and care are not tailored effectively to meet their individual needs, which has a negative impact on their emotional security. Children have access to regular exercise and fresh air in an outdoor play area, where they spend their time developing their physical skills. Children are supported to become independent as they confidently access resources to develop their play, feed themselves at mealtimes and begin to understand simple care routines.

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

The leadership and management of the setting are inadequate. The provider failed to notify Ofsted about changes to the setting's manager. This is an offence and constitutes a breach in the requirements. Risk assessments and rigorous recruitment and induction procedures are in place to check the suitability of all members of staff. Management and staff have a suitable understanding of child protection issues. However, staff are unsure of the correct procedure to follow or where to find the relevant information if they have a concern about a colleague or if an allegation is made against a member of staff. Furthermore, daily registers of children's hours of attendance are not always completed accurately, which compromises children's safety and well-being. Children's individual registration details and records are stored effectively in the office. However, incident books with detailed information about children and incidents that occur in the setting are left in communal areas of the room. This means any individual may read the details and does not ensure confidentiality. Staff hold an appropriate range of childcare qualifications and access training to further enhance their practice. However, staff supervisions have not been fully established to help the manager to monitor staff performance and identify areas for development. The manager is aware of the variation of teaching quality and the

inconsistencies of staff's interactions with children. However, she is new to the post and has not fully addressed this concern. The manager has systems in place to monitor children's progress; however, these are not effective. The weaknesses in staff understanding of how observations should inform planning and children's next steps in learning have not yet been identified. This hinders children's ability to learn the skills they need for future learning and the eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412745
Local authority	Bradford
Inspection number	851323
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	82
Number of children on roll	123
Name of provider	Acorns In Eldwick Limited
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2011
Telephone number	01274511572

Acorns In Eldwick Limited was registered in 2010. It operates from two-storey premises in Eldwick, Bradford. The setting opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round, except for bank holidays and Christmas. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds. The setting employs 25 members of childcare staff, 20 of whom hold level 3 qualifications or above.

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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