

Happy Days Nursery

91 - 93 Chalcombe Avenue, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN2 8LB



Inspection date

20 August 2015

Previous inspection date

31 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Good	4 2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
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 nursery management team has failed to ensure that the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are fully implemented into nursery practice. This has resulted in breaches of requirements that have a significant impact on children's safety and well-being.
- Risk assessments are not robust. Staff have failed to identify potential hazards within the children's nursery environment. On the day of the inspection this resulted in a child being involved in an accident.
- Children are not all fully protected in the event of a medical emergency. The management team does not ensure the adequate deployment of staff, who are trained in paediatric first aid, throughout the nursery.
- Children in the pre-school room are not offered a good range of stimulating activities and resources that closely match their learning needs and interests. Consequently, not all children are challenged and motivated in their play or supported to progress to a good level.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use a range of suitable teaching methods to help children learn. This includes asking questions and demonstrating new things. As a result, children make steady progress in their learning and development and in readiness for school.
- Children are happy and settled. They are appropriately nurtured by the staff who are caring towards them. This means that children develop an attachment to them, which has a positive effect on their emotional development.
- Successful partnerships between parents and other professionals contribute effectively to ensuring that there is continuity in children's care and learning. This includes children who require additional assistance or early intervention.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure thorough risk assessments identify all possible hazards and take appropriate action to remove or minimise the risk to children
- deploy staff across the whole nursery to ensure that a member of staff trained in paediatric first aid is able to respond to emergencies quickly
- ensure that the premises and equipment are organised to meet the needs of children in the pre-school room, for example, by making sure that children have access to a good range of resources that are set out in a way that ignites their interests and motivates them to learn.

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

- improve the use of rigorous self-evaluation, so that weaknesses in the organisation of the nursery are quickly identified and action plans can be put in place to set clear targets for improvement.

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

- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the younger and older age groups and the outside learning environment, and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider, manager and deputy manager of the provision and spoke with staff throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, risk assessments and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working within the setting, the provider's evidence of self-evaluation and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Overall, teaching is appropriate. Staff have a reasonable understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They support children's communication and language skills as they suitably interact with them and ask some probing questions during activities. Staff in the pre-school room support children's spontaneous experimentation with chalks in the outdoor area. They encourage children to talk about the marks that they are making and extend this through discussion focused on children's interest in rockets and their favourite characters. In the nursery's under two's room, staff are enthusiastic in their support of children's learning. Older babies enjoy sensory exploration of a variety of materials and remain engaged with these activities. All staff adequately monitor children's progress, outline next steps in their learning and share this regularly with parents. However, their implementation of this into the arrangement of the free-play activities in the pre-school room is not consistent, in order to extend and challenge children's learning.

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

Weaknesses in staff's knowledge of how to correctly implement and undertake risk assessments undermine children's safety and well-being. On the day of the inspection, this resulted in a child being injured in an accident. However, there are some effective measures taken to help prevent accidents, such as having safety gates on entrances to some rooms and the stairs. This prevents children having unsupervised access to certain areas. Children in the pre-school room play freely for long periods of time and are able to make choices and develop their independence. However, staff do not consistently arrange activities to excite and stimulate children's exploration. Many of the activities in both rooms for the older age group lack resources that interest and challenge children. This is mirrored in the outdoor environment as the mud kitchen and water course activities are without basic key materials. Consequently, children become disinterested and depend upon staff to redirect their play, particularly the boys. Staff positively involve children with the daily routines of the nursery. They value their choices and encourage children to try to do things by themselves before offering assistance. As a result, children's independence and self-confidence is fostered.

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

Leadership and management are ineffective. Risk assessments are in place for all areas of the premises and outings. However, these are not undertaken effectively in order to support children's safety in all areas of the nursery. During the inspection, failures in the management of risks resulted in two incidents. A child was injured in an accident, when one of a number of old fencing panels propped up in the nursery's outdoor area fell on them. Ineffective arrangements are in place to restrict children's access to the nursery kitchen, as a young child gained access to the kitchen from the main pre-school room. Additionally, although some members of staff have been trained in paediatric first aid,

they are not adequately deployed throughout the nursery. This does not ensure that all children could be treated quickly in an emergency, particularly the younger children in the upper childcare rooms. Staff are supported in undertaking mandatory and additional training to develop their knowledge. All policies, qualifications and documents are in place to meet statutory requirements. Staff attend training in child protection and the nursery's child protection policy contains suitable detail. Staff are also able to demonstrate a secure understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child. The nursery has implemented the recommendation from the previous inspection and has some processes in place to evaluate practice. This demonstrates that there is the capacity for implementing changes, in order to make improvements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316388
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	862229
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	43
Number of children on roll	43
Name of provider	Happy Days Sunnyside Ltd.
Date of previous inspection	31 May 2011
Telephone number	01604 842866

Happy Days Nursery was registered in 2005. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3. The manager holds Early Years Professional status. 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.

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