

The Poplars Nursery Ltd

Portland Court, Sherwood, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG5 6EX



Inspection date

13 August 2015

Previous inspection date

24 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- In emergency situations, the management team has not consistently followed their policy with regards to administering medication. This resulted in children being given medication that did not belong to them.
- Children's concentration skills are not always promoted effectively during adult-led activities.
- The management team does not routinely monitor the progress of all the different groups of children who attend the nursery.

It has the following strengths

- The management team uses their knowledge and skills to make sure that teaching is of a good standard throughout the nursery. Staff are encouraged to improve their practice by learning from each other, taking part in targeted supervisions and being reflective.
- Babies and children are interested learners because staff provide them with a good range of activities and resources. This supports all children, including those who speak English as an additional language, to make good progress in their learning from their starting points.
- Staff have a good understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow.
- Babies and children are happy and settled in the nursery. This is because they quickly establish warm relationships with all staff. Staff use a range of strategies to effectively support children when they move rooms within the nursery. As a result, children are emotionally prepared for the next stage in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure written permission for particular medications is obtained from a child's parent and/or carer before the medication is administered and ensure that children are not given medication that belongs to others.

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

- enhance the organisation of group times so that all children are able to remain focused
- refine systems to monitor children's overall progress to precisely identify any groups of children where progress is less than expected.

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.
- The inspector observed children during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation.
- The inspector spoke with staff and the managers at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and discussed the provider's improvement plans.
- The inspector held a joint observation with a member of the management team.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Dawn Larkin

Inspection findings

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

The vast majority of staff are well qualified and as a result, teaching is consistently good. Staff ask children effective questions that encourage their thinking and extend their learning. The use of mathematical language and counting is promoted well throughout the nursery. This is because staff model the correct language and involve babies and children in meaningful counting activities. Children obtain the skills they require for school. Children's personal, social and emotional development is generally promoted well. Staff provide many opportunities for children to take turns, share and help each other. However, occasionally, adult-led activities do not always fully encourage younger children to remain focused. This is because sometimes the length of the session is too long. This results in some younger children in the pre-school room finding it difficult to be fully engaged in the group time. Parents feel well informed about their children's learning and progress. Staff and parents work together to help children learn and make good progress.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

The majority of staff hold current paediatric first-aid certificates to ensure children's safety is promoted. Accidents are monitored and there are clear procedures in place for the recording of these and the sharing of this information with parents. Medication is usually administered to children in line with the nursery's medication policy. This policy details the correct procedures to follow when staff give medication to children. However, on two occasions this policy has not been followed and children have been given medication without parents' prior written consent being obtained. Verbal permission was sought. However, children were given medication that belonged to others. Children and babies enjoy daily fresh air and exercise. Meals are healthy, nutritious and take account of individual dietary needs. Children are well supported to adopt healthy lifestyles. Staff and parents work well together to teach children about good behaviour.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

Robust procedures are in place for the safe recruitment of staff. All staff have undertaken a Disclosure and Barring Service check. Inductions and regular supervisions ensure that staff are competent in their role. The management team supports staff to enhance their qualifications to improve the outcomes for children. Staff are appropriately deployed to ensure adult-to-child ratios are maintained and staff ensure children are closely supervised. Unqualified staff are supported by experienced and qualified staff to promote good practice. In addition, there is always a senior member of staff available to offer support and guidance. The management team and staff monitor children's progress to ensure they are all making good progress from their starting points. However, the monitoring of different groups of children is not fully embedded to ensure children make better than good progress. Effective partnership working with other professionals ensures that children's specific needs are assessed and that appropriate support is given over time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY257438
Local authority	Nottingham City
Inspection number	1022493
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	The Poplars Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 June 2013
Telephone number	0115 9676051

The Poplars Nursery Ltd was registered in 1993. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. One member of staff holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 49 weeks of the year, closing for a week at Christmas and two weeks at the start of the school summer holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

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