

Wind In The Willows Day Nursery



Wind In The Willows Day Nursery, Windermere Drive, Milton Keynes, MK2 3DD

Inspection date

7 January 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Inadequate	4
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Inadequate	4

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Safeguarding and welfare requirements are not being met. This has a significant impact on children's safety and well-being.
- Too few children are reaching the level of development expected for their age. This means they are not well prepared for when they move on to school. Systems to measure children's learning and development are not effective.
- There is too little information shared with parents about children's learning and development.
- Not all parents know of the person that has key responsibility for their child at nursery. Information is not being gathered to make sure the staff can meet the needs of the children in their care.
- Management monitoring and supervision arrangements do not make sure that children experience good quality teaching.
- The nursery is not making sure that groups of children at risk of under-achievement make good progress in their learning and are catching up with other children of the same age.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are kind and caring. Children enjoy secure relationships with staff.
- Children behave well in the setting and have opportunities to make choices in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure that all staff have a good understanding of the policies and procedures to safeguard children and are vigilant in identifying, recording and sharing any concerns	29/02/2016
■ improve the quality of teaching by ensuring that all staff have opportunities to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills through effective support, coaching and training	29/02/2016
■ ensure that parents are aware of their child's key person and that key persons gather sufficient information regarding the children in their care to enable them to meet their needs	29/02/2016
■ ensure that records are maintained and information shared appropriately with other agencies in order to meet the needs of the children in the nursery's care	29/02/2016
■ ensure that there is an effective two-way flow of information with parents. This is to include information from parents regarding children's ongoing learning and development at home, information for parents about their children's next steps in their learning and ways for parents to support children's learning at home	29/02/2016
■ ensure that assessments of children's progress are accurate and that children's next steps are clearly identified and planned for	29/02/2016
■ ensure that progress checks completed on children aged between two and three years identify any emerging concerns and what steps the nursery is taking to address these concerns.	29/02/2016

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

- implement systems to track the progress of groups of children in order to ensure that the nursery is narrowing the gap for those groups at risk of underachievement.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors spoke to parents, children and staff throughout the inspection as appropriate.
- The inspectors sampled documentation such as staff files, records of children's progress and staff suitability checks.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the manager of the nursery.
- The inspectors carried out a joint observation with the manager of the nursery.

Inspector

Penny Fisher

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The recently appointed manager is inexperienced in the role. She is developing her understanding of the requirements. She acknowledges weaknesses within the provision, some of which are identified in an action plan. This is being developed in conjunction with the local authority. Safeguarding is ineffective. Staff have an insufficiently secure knowledge and understanding of child protection policies and procedures. The nursery does not ensure that information regarding vulnerable children is appropriately recorded and shared. Staff are unaware of their duty to prevent children being drawn into radicalisation and extremism. Procedures for induction and supervision are not effective; some staff are unclear about their roles and responsibilities. Opportunities for the manager and staff to improve their practice through training, coaching and mentoring are too few and this is having an impact on the overall quality of provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Summary assessments of children's progress are shared with most parents on a termly basis, but these are not in language that is easy to understand. Parents are not aware of identified next steps in their children's learning and the summaries do not contain this information. Children have opportunities to choose from a reasonable range of resources which they can access easily. Staff are friendly and supportive; they supervise children well as they play. However, the quality of teaching is too variable. Some staff lack a secure knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This means they miss too many opportunities to develop children's skills. Children, although occupied, are often not involved in purposeful play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Key staff with responsibility for children do not ensure that they have sufficient information about children's needs prior to them starting at the nursery. Parents do not share information about their children's learning at home to help inform assessments of children's progress. Staff develop warm relationships with children which help them to feel emotionally secure within the nursery. Children generally enjoy their time at nursery. However, arrangements to support children's transition, both within the nursery and on to school, are not effective. Children eat healthy cooked meals and nutritious snacks. They play in the fresh air every day. They behave well, for example, when waiting on the mat for registration time. They have a clear understanding of the nursery's 'golden rules'. Children's attendance at nursery is clearly recorded, but staff are not always alert to the need to monitor absences to ensure children's well-being.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Assessments of children's progress, including progress checks at age two, are not always accurate or thorough enough to ensure that gaps in children's learning and development are identified and shared with parents. There is currently no monitoring of children's progress records to ensure their quality. This means that information used by the manager to track the progress of children and identify those that need additional support is not

reliable. The information available shows that too many children are not making typical progress for their age and the reasons for this are not fully understood by the manager. The manager has not yet begun to monitor different groups of children to ensure that any differences in their achievements are identified and gaps are closed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY492208
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	1034215
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	45
Name of provider	Andrew Nigel Andrews
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01908 370125

The Wind in the Willows Day Nursery is a privately owned nursery which registered under the current provider in 2007 and then reregistered in 2015. The nursery is on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. It operates from an open plan setting in a purpose built facility, situated on the Water Eaton residential estate of Bletchley, close to Milton Keynes. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm all year round, except for one week at Christmas. The nursery currently supports children with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs nine staff, plus a cook and a cleaner. Of these, seven staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications and two members of staff are working towards a qualification.

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