

Fun Train Day Nursery

9 and 9A Hamilton Street, Birkenhead, Merseyside, CH41 6DL



Inspection date

22 January 2016

Previous inspection date

13 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Observations and assessments are not completed frequently enough to identify children's current learning, as a basis for future planning. Planned activities lack challenge and are not tailored to the individual needs of the children.
- At times throughout the day, children's behaviour is disruptive to others and this is not consistently well managed by staff.
- The current system for monitoring the educational programme does not include comparing the progress of learning for specific groups of children across the nursery.
- The professional-development opportunities for staff are not yet ambitiously focused on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.

It has the following strengths

- Staff develop positive relationships with parents. This enables them to share information about children's care and learning. Care practices are implemented well and children's routines are discussed with parents as these change. Parents are happy with the service provided.
- Staff have warm interactions with children. Staff in the baby room are particularly caring and attentive to babies. Children are happy and settled in the nursery.
- Children benefit from a stimulating and well-organised environment. Children display high levels of independence as they move around the nursery and make choices in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ carry out observation and assessment of children, to ensure that their current learning is identified, to plan challenging activities that meet their individual needs	26/02/2016
■ ensure all staff consistently use positive behaviour management strategies to improve children's behaviour	05/02/2016
■ monitor the educational programme precisely and compare the progress of the different groups of children who attend the nursery, to identify and address gaps in their learning.	12/02/2016

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

- enhance the professional-development opportunities for staff so that these are highly focused towards ambitiously raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, policies, risk assessments and the setting's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to both children and staff, and observed play and learning activities within the main environment and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations with the managers of the nursery.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises.

Inspector

Alison Regan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Since the last inspection, the managers have made some improvements to the quality of the provision. For example, children are now kept safe when they play in the outdoor environment. A detailed action plan is in place to support the ongoing improvements made to the nursery. The managers are in the early stages of reviewing the progress made by individual children. However, systems to monitor the progress made by different groups of children are not in place. Therefore, managers are not always able to identify or address gaps in children's learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date. They know what to do should they have any safeguarding or child protection concerns. Managers carry out regular supervisions of staff and support staff to attend regular training to extend their knowledge and skills. This has helped staff to improve their knowledge. However, managers do not provide opportunities for staff to raise the current standard of teaching to a higher level.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The majority of the staff are qualified. Staff complete observations on children to determine next steps in their learning. However, these are not frequently carried out to plan appropriate activities for children based on up-to-date and accurate information. Children quickly lose interest in activities because they lack challenge and do not always motivate children to learn. Staff across the nursery have some excellent interactions with children. Staff enjoy demonstrating and repeating actions for babies to follow. Staff prompt older children to think through different ideas while they are playing. Staff ask appropriate questions and give time for children to think and respond. Staff help children to develop their early literacy skills. Children describe the words on the front of the book as the title. Staff pause at intervals when reading stories, to encourage children to finish off words and sentences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children enjoy their time in the setting. They settle well and become increasingly confident in exploring the environment. Children are praised at appropriate times. However, during group times, some children become fidgety and disrupt others' learning. At these times, staff do not implement effective, age-appropriate strategies for managing children's behaviour. Children have good opportunities to play outdoors which help promote their health and physical development. Children enjoy freshly-cooked meals each day and fresh fruit at snack time. Children's social and emotional well-being are promoted well. Staff find out about children's routines, background and cultures, and celebrate a variety of festivals and events.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Staff obtain relevant information from parents to determine starting points for learning. Children, including those in receipt of early education funding, make steady, rather than consistently good, progress. Most children reach expected levels of achievement and gain basic skills to prepare them for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310371
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1025159
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	69
Name of provider	Fun Train Day Nursery
Date of previous inspection	13 August 2015
Telephone number	0151 647 0482

Fun Train Day Nursery was registered in 2005. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

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