

Chaul End Children's Centre

Chaul End Centre, Dunstable Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU4 8QW



Inspection date

12 February 2016

Previous inspection date

28 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Staff do not consistently follow the nursery's policies and procedures for safely storing children's medication.
- Sometimes, the arrangements for sharing information about children's individual learning with parents are not always successful.
- Staff do not always swiftly seek the views of parents to evaluate the nursery. Therefore, plans for improvement do not always focus precisely on the most relevant issues.

It has the following strengths

- The manager supervises the work of staff closely. Training helps staff to extend upon their current skills. The staff team is supportive of each other and enthusiastic in adopting new approaches to teaching, learning and assessment.
- High-quality teaching of communication and language skills helps children to make significant progress in this area. Staff are acutely aware of some children's low levels of attainment in this area and swiftly introduce programmes for support. Children who speak English as an additional language make rapid progress.
- Staff place a strong focus upon teaching children and families about leading healthy lives. Children take part in sports sessions where they are active and develop their physical skills. Staff help parents to learn about healthy eating and children's good oral hygiene.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- implement an effective policy and procedure for the safe storage and administration of medication and ensure that staff follow this at all times. 31/03/2016

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

- extend upon the various different ways of sharing information with parents so that all are aware of their children's progress
- seek the views of parents more proactively to include their ideas in the reflective evaluations and plans for ongoing improvement of the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The nursery is led by a knowledgeable manager. The owner of the nursery is highly qualified and actively involved in reviewing the quality of the nursery. Staff also contribute towards evaluations and use extensive data about children's progress to improve the programme of learning. Staff are sometimes less proactive in seeking the views of parents. Therefore, they are not aware that on rare occasion, some parents feel that they do not receive enough information about the progress that their children make at the nursery. Nonetheless, staff encourage parents' involvement in children's learning. Children and parents enjoy making props at home to bring to the nursery to show their friends on superhero day. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. However, on the day of the inspection, staff did not follow the nursery's procedures for storing children's medication. All staff are aware of the signs and symptoms that might cause them concern about children's welfare. Each knows how to report any such concerns to the relevant professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are highly qualified and use their knowledge to provide good quality learning experiences for children. Children play and learn in a vibrant and exciting environment. Displays of the jungle and carefully made treasure baskets help to bring learning to life for children. Babies enjoy exploring their cosy corner and feeling the sensation of crawling across a pathway made of foil. Older children express their creativity using paint and talk animatedly about fireworks. Staff provide good quality teaching of mathematics. Activities are creative and interesting and help young children to easily understand complicated ideas, such as length, estimation and comparisons. Staff are aware of children's levels of working and are ambitious about what they can achieve. They plan activities to promote children's next steps in learning. Staff organise all activities around what interests children. They successfully find ways to help children to develop their literacy skills as they play. Use of puppets and lively storytelling sessions engage children's interest well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children form close bonds of attachment to the staff who care for them. The key-person system is effective in ensuring that children's individual needs are met. Overall, staff share close relationships with families and promote children's well-being. Generally, children are content and show their feelings of security. Staff teach children to use sign language as a way of expressing and understanding their feelings. Children play happily together and show respect and affection for each other.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff are alert to groups of children who enter the nursery with levels of development lower than expected for their age. They plan for all children, using targeted programmes to help close any gaps in learning and help children to be ready for moving on and starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY317340
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	862256
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	22
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Chaul End Childrens Centre
Date of previous inspection	28 February 2012
Telephone number	01582 557 148

Chaul End Children's Centre was registered in 2005. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including three who are qualified at degree level in early years education. 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. The nursery supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

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