

Diamonds Day Nursery

The Old Convent, Alvaston Street, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0PA



Inspection date	22 February 2016
Previous inspection date	21 September 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:

- Staff working with younger children do not effectively promote children's communication and language skills.
- The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Staff in pre-school do not challenge children well enough and extend their learning.
- Arrangements to check the quality of staff's practice are not yet effective. The manager does not monitor the staff's teaching sharply enough and ensure teaching is consistently good.
- Opportunities for parents to share more extensively in their child's learning have not been fully explored.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are friendly and approachable. Children demonstrate they are happy and settled. The key-person system is effective.
- Children are making steady progress in their learning. Staff complete assessments of children and appropriately identify next steps in their learning. There are suitable opportunities that support children who speak English as an additional language.
- Children behave well. They readily share with each other and enjoy taking responsibility. Staff manage children's behaviour in positive ways and children respond well. Older children are cooperative, beginning to respect each other's views and take turns.
- Staff promote children's good health effectively as part of prompting a healthy lifestyle. Staff teach children the importance of following good hygiene routines, eating healthy foods and taking part in exercise.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure staff in the baby and toddler room improve how they teach communication and language skills	30/06/2016
■ improve the quality of teaching by staff in the pre-school; ensure children are consistently challenged and that staff guide and support children in activities so that they make good progress.	30/06/2016

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

- improve the process for overseeing staff performance, and ensure practice is consistent across the nursery, paying particular attention to how staff teach children communication and language skills and challenge children's learning
- increase opportunities for parents to share information about their children's development more frequently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff and held a discussion with the manager during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector observed children engaged in activities both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled documentation and records. These included children's learning journals, tracking and planning documentation and staff files.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The manager and all staff are newly in place. There have been changes made to the nursery since the last inspection. Overall, most of the actions and recommendations have been addressed appropriately. However, there still is a need for improvement. The manager reflects on the provision and has identified some of the nursery's strengths and weakness. The manager and staff are well qualified and attend training. The manager has a suitable overview of the progress children make. However, new checks on staff's ongoing performance are just being introduced. These are not yet developed enough to identify and tackle the inconsistencies in staff teaching. Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff understand how to keep children safe. They know what to do if they have a concern about a child in their care. The manager works effectively with outside agencies and the local authority.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Teaching is variable throughout the nursery. Staff in the pre-school do not use activities well enough to challenge children to make the best possible progress. Children become bored, they fidget and become disinterested and this leads to them not joining in activities. In the baby and toddler room staff fail to develop children's communication and language skills efficiently. In contrast, older children hold conversations and learn new words that help extend their vocabulary. Staff promote children's fine-muscle skills throughout the nursery. Some examples are when children enjoy using a variety of tools. They take part well in painting and building sand castles. Younger children thoroughly enjoy exploring bottles containing different items. They pass them from hand to hand and enjoy the noises the bottles make. Staff talk to parents about their children's learning. However, they have not yet developed ways of encouraging parents to contribute information about the learning the children have achieved at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children are developing friendships and are beginning to show care and kindness to each other. Older children learn about the wider community well. One example of this is when they draw maps of what they can see when they go out and about. They discuss the people they might see. Children are well supervised and are cared for in a safe environment. Staff teach children to use tools carefully and to take risks while they play outside. Transitions are positive and children are supported effectively as they move from one room to the other. Links with other settings children attend and local schools have not yet been fully established. However, the manager has started these and identified ways to promote the smooth move for children from the nursery to other provisions.

Outcomes for children require improvement

All children make steady progress in their learning given their starting points, including funded children. However, teaching requires improvement in order to enable children to consistently make good progress. Older children are acquiring some key skills for future learning. Children's physical development is good and they are developing appropriate literacy and mathematical skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421215
Local authority	Derby, City of
Inspection number	1029425
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 - 12
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	64
Name of provider	Christina Hanrahan
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2015
Telephone number	01332755455

Diamonds Day Nursery was registered in 2011. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6pm Monday to Friday, all year round except for a week between Christmas and New Year, and bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for free early education for three and four - year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Four staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6.

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