

Little Spuds Day Nursery

Alder Coppice Primary School, Northway, DUDLEY, West Midlands, DY3 3PS



Inspection date

11 March 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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:

- The provider and staff do not always promote children's well-being. They do not consistently keep written records of accidents, injuries and first-aid treatment. When staff do make a record, they often give this to parents and do not keep a copy at the nursery. This means accurate information is not available to help the provider to monitor the causes and impact of accidents.
- The provider's evaluation procedures are not sufficiently robust to ensure all aspects of the nursery's provision, including record keeping, are carefully checked.
- Staff do not focus enough on the key priorities for children's learning identified in their assessments or set the most ambitious targets for their future learning.
- Staff do not always successfully promote younger or less confident children's listening and sustained involvement in group activities.

It has the following strengths

- Kind, reassuring staff, sensitively help children to settle and become confident to explore the welcoming, well-resourced surroundings and to develop positive relationships.
- Staff promptly assess children's starting points and regularly review their progress. They incorporate the views of parents and information gained from the school nursery attended by some of the children into their assessments.
- Children enjoy rich and varied activities, including rewarding, well-managed outings in the local community.

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
■ keep a written record of accidents or injuries and first-aid treatment	25/03/2016
■ ensure records are easily accessible and available and retained for a reasonable period of time.	25/03/2016

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

- improve monitoring and evaluation procedures to ensure all aspects of the nursery's provision are checked regularly and accurately
- make better use of assessments to set ambitious targets for children's future learning in order to promote their rapid progress and achievement at the highest level
- explore additional ways to promote younger and less confident children's listening skills and sustained involvement during group activities and discussions.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the nursery provider.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider, the manager and the deputy manager. The inspector also spoke to a local authority childcare support coordinator and to the nursery staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including records relating to children's attendance, health and safety. She checked evidence of the suitability, qualifications and training of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector looked at the provider's self-evaluation form and her plans for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views and those of other parents from their written feedback to the provider.

Inspector
Rachel Wyatt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Some monitoring and evaluations are effective but the provider has not implemented robust checking of documentation. Some accidents are not recorded and records are not always kept on nursery premises. The provider lacks information to help her and her staff reduce the risk of further accidents or incidents and assess how well injuries are treated. Other aspects of leadership and management are effective. The manager and staff are well qualified and attend regular, relevant training, including safeguarding. Staff are effectively deployed to ensure children are supervised and supported at the nursery and during outings. Parents appreciate the staff's advice about their children's learning, behaviour and routines. They welcome regular discussions with staff about their children's progress. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider and staff know the signs of abuse, neglect and other risks to children. They liaise with other agencies working with vulnerable children and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff, generally, know how well children are progressing and which aspects of their learning to focus on next. Occasionally, staff's planning and teaching are not focussed enough on a child's learning needs or abilities. Overall, they plan enjoyable experiences, promoting children's purposeful, effective learning. Children are curious and imaginative. They discover how things fit together and work as they play with construction and small-world toys. Children dress up and enthusiastically act out roles, encouraged by staff. They help children to extend their ideas through songs, dancing and making accessories for their costumes. Staff usually involve most children in group-time discussions but they do not always adapt their teaching to engage some younger, less confident children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Record keeping relating to accidents is haphazard. However, the provider and staff do give parents adequate verbal or written information about accidents or incidents resulting in injuries to children. The provider and staff all have a current first-aid qualification and effectively promote other aspects of children's health. They help children to independently manage their self-care and ensure their comfort and hygiene after toileting accidents. Children are encouraged to eat healthily and are offered regular drinks, including fresh water. Staff promote children's positive relationships and good behaviour, so they share, take turns and play cooperatively. Children are effectively supervised and taught how to safely use equipment, including utensils and scissors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who receive early education funding. Staff ensure children are well prepared for their future learning, including going to school. Staff's good teaching and interactions enthuse children who are usually keen to join in and imaginatively talk about and act out their ideas. Children confidently use information and communication technology to support their learning. They increasingly recognise, count and compare numbers and identify and use letters and sounds.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489743
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	1041580
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Kelly Elizabeth Thomas
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01902 881119

Little Spuds Day Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. They all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 3.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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