

Armthorpe Daycare Nursery

Church Street, Armthorpe, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN3 3AH



Inspection date

23 March 2016

Previous inspection date

12 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Monitoring, observation and assessment systems are not effective enough to enable staff to plan for children's individual learning needs. Children do not make the best possible progress, in order to be fully ready for their future education.
- Children do not receive good levels of support to promote their learning when their key person is not in the nursery.
- The manager does not check the suitability of staff before their recruitment or on an ongoing basis.
- The manager does not provide sufficient supervision, training and support to help staff understand their roles and responsibilities.
- Staff do not gather information from parents about children's skills before they start at the nursery. They do not have all the relevant information to inform their initial assessments of the starting points for children's learning. Staff do not consistently inform parents of their child's next steps in learning so they are able to continue with their child's learning at home.
- The manager has not addressed the poor state of repair of some of the toilet facilities. Staff do not ensure that children always have access to paper towels after washing their hands.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use appropriate behaviour management strategies and children respond well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ develop precise monitoring systems so that staff are better supported to observe children, identify their next steps in learning and plan a range of challenging activities which is highly focused on meeting children's individual needs and promoting good progress	01/07/2016
■ improve staff deployment and the current key-person system to ensure that all children continue to enjoy good levels of support in their learning when their key person is not in the nursery	25/04/2016
■ check the suitability of all staff and ensure that they disclose any changes that may affect their suitability to work with children	06/04/2016
■ provide regular supervision, training and coaching to support all staff to strengthen their teaching and professional development so that outcomes for children are at least good	01/07/2016
■ ensure that detailed information is sought from parents about their child's stage of learning and inform parents about what their child will be learning next, in order to inform precise planning from the start and support parents to continue their child's learning at home	01/07/2016
■ ensure that toilet facilities are fit for purpose and that children have the resources they need to follow good hygiene procedures.	25/04/2016

Inspection activities

- 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 with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's action plans and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jane Tucker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The manager's tracking of children's progress and staff's knowledge and practice is weak. This is having a significant impact on the success of children's learning. The deployment of staff is not effective. Children are not given sufficient levels of support in their learning when their key person is not in the nursery. Observations of children's achievements are not regular enough and gaps in some aspects of their learning have occurred over time. Assessments of children's progress are not accurate. The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The manager implements acceptable recruitment and induction procedures. However, she does not fully understand her role to check that staff are and remain suitable to work with children. Staff have recently attended a child protection course. They have a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child in their care. Staff do not receive guidance and support through effective supervision and appraisal sessions. Access to training to help staff develop their understanding of the needs of the range of children they work with is not regular enough. Self-evaluation is weak and action plans do not address the weaknesses in practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Staff do not fully understand the new system that has been introduced to observe children, identify their next steps and plan for their future learning. They do not gather enough information from parents about children's prior learning to inform their initial assessments. Parents do not always know what their children are learning next. Although the manager ensures that there are sufficient staff caring for children to meet ratio requirements, staff deployment is not effective. Staff who provide cover when key persons are absent do not have enough information about what children need to learn next to be able to offer them challenging experiences. The manager is not aware that activities are poorly planned and are not targeted at supporting children's learning or meeting individual needs. This means that opportunities for children to acquire skills and make good progress in their development are reduced. Staff are qualified but they do not use their knowledge and skills well enough to provide children with good quality experiences. They lack confidence in their abilities, which has an impact on the quality of their teaching.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff work with parents to help children settle in. They gather information about children's care routines. Relationships between children are good and they interact well with each other. Children are developing skills that will help them prepare emotionally for the wider social network of school. Staff promote children's self-care skills. Older children complete simple tasks, such as getting their own knife and fork before they sit at the table to eat their nutritious lunch. Children wash their hands before food and after going to the toilet. However, suitable hygiene facilities are not always available. Some toilet seats are broken and paper towels are not always accessible. Children are prepared for their move within the nursery as they visit their next group. However, accurate assessments of children's current skills are not available to their new key person. This means that effective planning for children's learning cannot take place from the start.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children do learn some basic skills. They enjoy daily opportunities for physical play. Children are happy and enjoy independently choosing what they want to play with. Older children are able to listen to others and confidently share their ideas. They take part in circle time activities where they copy actions and take turns to decide which song to sing next. Babies enjoy exploring with sound as they bang pots with spoons. However, all children are not supported well enough through good quality experiences to reach their full potential in preparation for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY291424
Local authority	Doncaster
Inspection number	1042464
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	78
Name of provider	Armthorpe Daycare Nursery
Date of previous inspection	12 April 2013
Telephone number	01302 834 646

Armthorpe Daycare Nursery was registered in 2004. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including two with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm.

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