

Inspection date	5 April 2016
Previous inspection date	4 November 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:

- The manager monitors staff practice. However, this has not effectively helped staff to improve rapidly. Teaching is not good enough and children are not routinely challenged to learn as much as they can.
- The planning and delivery of activities does not always meet children's needs, particularly when children of different ages are cared for in one area. This means that on occasion older and more-able children become bored.
- Staff do not manage children's behaviour effectively. They do not give clear explanations to help children adapt their behaviour to stay safe. For example some run around inside and are at risk of hurting themselves or others.
- The manager does not make best use of available information and does not know the progress made by groups of children. She does not know if there are any gaps in the curriculum or if any groups of children are falling behind in their learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff know what children enjoy. They provide activities and toys that reflect children's interests.
- Children settle quickly when they arrive at the nursery. They demonstrate positive relationships with staff.
- Parents are happy with the care provided for their children. They appreciate the regular information they receive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve the quality of teaching to provide challenging and exciting learning opportunities that meet all children’s needs well, including when children of different ages are cared for in the same room 	04/05/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ implement systems to monitor the progress made by groups of children and the effectiveness of the curriculum 	04/05/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve systems used to support and develop staff practice and expertise so that the quality of teaching improves 	04/05/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure behaviour is managed effectively by encouraging all children to follow the nursery’s rules. 	04/05/2016

Inspection activities

- The inspector spent time observing children at play in all areas of the nursery, including the outdoor area.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation including staff files, children's assessment records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector took parents' views into account.
- The inspector viewed the settings self evaluation information.

Inspector

Diane Burt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The manager has worked hard to improve practice in the nursery. She has taken steps to address the actions arising from the last inspection. These are beginning to make a positive difference. She works with other professionals to improve her practice. The manager meets with staff to discuss areas for improvement. She has started to see improvement in staff practice. She has proactively sourced training for them in behaviour management and care for children under two. She has improved her own practice by attending training such as safer recruitment. As a result, suitable procedures to employ staff are in place. Safeguarding is effective. Staff fully understand their responsibilities to protect children. Staff monitor children's attendance and keep a check on children's welfare if needed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. Staff accurately assess what children can do and plan for what they need to learn next. Those who may need additional help are identified and supported. On the day of the inspection, all the children were cared for in one room. Activities were not adapted to meet the needs of the children's different ages and development stages. Staff did not help children to learn enough and some tasks did not sustain children's interest. For example the older children made Easter bonnets but it was not clear what staff intended them to learn. Staff did not use the activity to help children learn new words. Children do not make good enough progress and are not prepared well enough for their next stage of learning. Staff use an online system to enable parents to share their information about their children's achievements at home so that staff have a useful picture of what children can do.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children appear happy. Staff are kind and caring. Children develop good physical skills in the outdoor play area. They generally behave well. However staff do not help children learn about the routines. They do not always explain what is going to happen next, such as when getting children ready for a sleep so children do not always know what is going to happen. This can confuse children and make them unsettled. Staff and parents work well together to make sure children have healthy snacks and meals. Staff help children to develop confidence and self-esteem by encouraging them to take turns, share resources and play amicably together.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children make sound progress from their starting points. Most are at typical levels of development for their age. Children are beginning to understand that sounds are linked to letters. They develop their literacy skills by singing rhymes and songs, and by listening to stories. Children show the ability to problem solve, especially in the outside area where they explore shapes and size through playing with guttering and tubing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396254
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1044936
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 - 11
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	28
Name of provider	Little Rascals Baby Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2015
Telephone number	01202658385

Little Rascals registered in 2009. It is located in Corfe Mullen, Dorset. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm apart from bank holidays and one week during the Christmas period. There are seven staff, including the manager, who work directly with the children. Four staff hold a relevant qualification at level 3, one at level 2 and there are two unqualified members of staff.

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