

Lollipops Pre-school Ltd

The Orchards, Dartford, DA1 1DN



Inspection date	12 May 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Not applicable	4
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

- The provider is in breach of requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register. Staff do not have a secure understanding of all safeguarding procedures. Leaders do not monitor staff practice or the educational programmes. They do not evaluate the provision to identify weaknesses and make improvements.
- The quality of teaching is weak. Staff's poor interactions do not motivate or interest children. They do not move children on in their development to ensure they make good progress and are prepared for their future learning.
- Staff do not complete accurate observations and assessments to plan for children's next stage in learning. They do not monitor children's progress from their starting points to identify and take action to close any gaps in their learning. Staff do not regularly share development information with parents to involve them in their children's learning.
- Staff do not manage children's behaviour effectively. They do not consistently support children's understanding about why their behaviour is not acceptable. Children are not well occupied and do not engage in activities effectively. Their poor behaviour limits their learning and progress, and puts others' safety at risk.
- Children do not have daily opportunities for outdoor play and activities, as required.

It has the following strengths

- Children have opportunities to develop their independence, such as pouring their own drinks and cutting their fruit at snack time.

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
■ improve staff knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures, including reporting matters affecting their suitability to care for children and, in particular, disqualification by association	16/06/2016
■ improve the monitoring of staff practice and the educational programmes to identify weaknesses and develop the quality of teaching, and improve outcomes for children	16/06/2016
■ develop the quality of teaching, particularly observations and assessments, and use the information from these to provide tailored, purposeful play and interactions, and challenging activities to help children make good progress	16/06/2016
■ monitor children's progress from their starting points to identify and close any gaps in their learning	16/06/2016
■ extend partnerships with parents to share information about children's learning and provide a consistent approach to supporting their progress	16/06/2016
■ develop staff's understanding of how to manage children's behaviour, including giving clear and consistent messages to children to help them understand how to behave and to minimise risks to others	02/06/2016
■ provide children with opportunities for daily outdoor play and activities.	02/06/2016

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

- make effective use of self-evaluation to identify weaknesses and breaches in requirements, and target improvements to raise the quality of the provision and outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She viewed a range of documentation, including staff's suitability checks and children's development records.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children.

Inspector

Sarah Stephens

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. Staff lack a clear knowledge and understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities. They do not know that they need to inform the manager or provider if they, or a member of their household, are disqualified from working with children. This compromises children's safety and welfare. Staff recognise the signs that would cause them concern about a child's welfare and know the processes to follow. Leaders do not monitor the educational programmes or staff practice effectively to improve children's outcomes. They do not support staff to develop their skills and knowledge. Staff do not use information from training to improve the quality of teaching and to support them in their roles. Leaders do not use the information from their evaluation process to identify areas of weakness and set targets for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Staff lack skills to support children's learning and development. They do not engage or interact with children to challenge and extend their development. For example, they speak quietly, with only minimal conversation, during planned activities. Children lose interest in what they are doing and their behaviour deteriorates. Staff do not give children time to think of their own solutions or help them think for themselves. They do not complete accurate observations and assessments of children's learning or plan for their progress. Staff do not monitor children's progress to ensure any gaps in their learning are quickly identified and closed. They do not keep parents regularly informed about their children's development to help support continuity of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff do not manage children's behaviour consistently. For example, staff do not always respond to children's poor behaviour, which leads to a disorderly environment and children's lack of engagement in activities. This does not support children's safety and well-being. Staff do not provide daily opportunities for children to take part in outdoor play and activities, as required. This limits children's physical development and health. They do not follow children's interests in play to engage them successfully in activities and learning.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children make limited progress from their starting points. They do not learn to concentrate and find it difficult to engage in purposeful play. Children do not gain the skills they need for their move to school. For example, they do not develop their mathematical skills or have opportunities to be involved in meaningful conversations with adults to support their communication and language development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477579
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	977717
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	Lollipops Pre-school Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01322 291151

Lollipops Pre-school re-registered in 2014 and operates in Dartford, Kent. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday between 9am and 3pm, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff, six of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. The pre-school also operates a creche service where children may stay for up to two hours.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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