

The Children's Triangle Nursery

The Triangle Community Centre, Dickens Road, Ipswich, IP2 0JW



Inspection date

8 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		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:

- Children under the age of two years do not have a separate base. Some younger children do not settle quickly and are overwhelmed by the physical environment.
- Individual plans for children with disabilities and those with special educational needs are not reviewed regularly. This does not ensure that they are making the best possible progress that they can.

It has the following strengths

- Overall, the management team is committed to the continuous development of the nursery, to bring about ongoing improvement to the quality of care and learning children receive. Self-evaluation and reflective practice are used to identify weaknesses in the provision.
- Safeguarding is a key strength of this nursery and underpins staff's commitment to protecting children's well-being at all times. Staff have a very good awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse and have robust systems for reporting concerns.
- Key persons build friendly and trusting relationships with parents and children. In the absence of the main key person there is an additional named person allocated to each child. They make sure that children's care and learning needs continue to be met.
- Staff promote children's communication skills well. They engage children in conversation and ask questions to challenge their thinking. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported to become confident communicators.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ provide children under two years of age with a separate base where they can feel comfortable and secure	30/06/2016
■ complete regular reviews of the progress of disabled children and those with special educational needs, to support them to make the best possible progress that they can.	31/03/2016

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 spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and a representative of the board of trustees.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and other records.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Children's safety and well-being is protected and staff provide effective support to parents in times of crisis. Staff are deployed effectively and suitable to work with children. Recruitment is effective. Suitable arrangements for the supervision and checking of staff performance helps to ensure a consistency of practice. Staff are enthusiastic and motivated. Their professional development is supported and encouraged. For example, as a result of recent tracking data that demonstrated children were not making progress in mathematics, training in promoting mathematics has been put in place. However, the environment is not planned to provide a separate space for children under two years as is required. Parents report they also appreciate staff's advice and guidance on child rearing issues, such as potty training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff get to know children well. They talk confidently about children's interests. Staff observe children as they play and identify what they need to do to support their continuing progress. These are planned for, through a good balance of adult-led and child-led play. However, individual plans for disabled children or those with special educational needs are not reviewed often enough, to check whether targets have been met and to plan new targets. This does not ensure that all children make the best possible progress. Staff work with other professionals to implement identified strategies. Children enjoy interesting and stimulating activities, both indoors and outside. For example, when playing outside they explore the water tunnel using coloured water. Staff extend the activity well, helping children to experiment to find out what happens when colours are mixed together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Most children are happy and confident. However, all ages of children are cared for together in one large room. Some younger children struggle to settle and do not feel secure as they are overwhelmed by the size of the room. Each family receives a home visit where children can meet staff in their own, familiar environment. This supports children's move to the nursery and the visit also enables parents to contribute to initial assessments of children's starting points. Second home visits support parents to remain actively engaged in their children's learning in the nursery and at home. Parents speak highly of staff and their dedication to their children. Children develop secure emotional attachments to staff and friendships with others. They behave well and develop a positive sense of themselves. They develop positive attitudes to each other and to people beyond their own experiences. Children's health and physical needs are met.

Outcomes for children require improvement

The learning of most children is assessed regularly, to check they are making developmental progress. Older children develop the confidence to embrace new experiences and in this respect, supports their readiness for school. Additional funding, including the early years pupil premium, is used effectively to narrow gaps in most children's achievements. Children understand that print carries meaning and some children recognise their first name when it is written.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476092
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	971797
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	Bows and Arrows
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01473 680530

The Children's Triangle Nursery was registered in 2014. It is one of five settings managed by Bows and Arrows Limited. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including the manager who has Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language, disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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