

Little Legs Nursery

Colster Way, Colsterworth, Nr Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG33 5JT



Inspection date

1 July 2016

Previous inspection date

24 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 manager and staff do not have a good enough understanding of what disqualifies a person from working with children.
- The manager accepted a disclosure and barring service check from the previous employer of a staff member believing that this is acceptable practice. Immediate action was taken to apply for a new check, and staff do not work in an unsupervised capacity with children.
- A clear record of injuries children arrive at nursery with is not kept to support monitoring of any concerning patterns.
- Staff do not have regular, planned opportunities to have one-to-one meetings with the manager to receive feedback on the quality of their work, discuss their training needs and review the children in their key person group.

It has the following strengths

- Staff have a secure understanding of how children learn. They use their knowledge well to provide an interesting and stimulating play environment in which children thrive.
- Children are secure and happy at the nursery. Staff are warm and caring. They give children's comfort and personal care a high priority.
- Staff are skilful early years teachers. They adapt activities to suit individual children's needs, hold children's interest in activities and use words and questions well to extend children's learning.

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ obtain enhanced criminal records and barred list checks for all new members of staff before they work in an unsupervised capacity with children 	15/07/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that all staff working in the nursery are aware of and understand what disqualifies a person from working with children, including the potential impact of living with a disqualified person. 	15/07/2016

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

- develop a clear record of injuries children have when they arrive at the nursery to aid monitoring of trends or patterns that might cause concern
- provide staff with more regular opportunities to meet with the manager to discuss the quality of their work, their professional development and the children in their key person group.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the nursery room and the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the owner/manager of the setting.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery and a range of other documentation.

Inspector

Joanne Smith HMI

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have a secure understanding of what to do if they are concerned about a child's safety or welfare, and what would be a cause of concern to them. They also have some knowledge of recent guidance about protecting children from extremist views. However, they only have a basic knowledge of the implications of living with a person who is disqualified from working with children. Staff are good role models. They are consistent in how they manage children's behaviour and children understand what is expected of them. Staff work well with parents and other professionals to make sure that children who need extra support receive it in a timely manner.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have an accurate understanding of the children's development and learning needs. They plan interesting, exciting activities that capture children's imagination and skilfully adapt their approach to meet the needs of individual children. Children were fascinated as staff shone a torch on duck eggs being incubated at the nursery. Older children noticed how the shadow in the egg has changed size. Staff used simple language to explain that the shadow is the baby duck growing, but also gave the children the proper name, foetus, for an unhatched duckling. Children's interest was aroused and some went away to draw a picture of what they had seen, ably explaining the different elements of their picture. Staff use planned small group activities very well. In one group children used natural resources to build mini dens. The staff member used questions and comments well to extend the activity. She helped children to be creative, use their imagination, and be confident to talk about who might live in the dens and what the different parts of the dens represented.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. However, the manager's acceptance of a previous employer's disclosure and barring service check for one new staff member is not safe practice for staff or children. Children are confident, independent learners. They spend time at activities, concentrating well on what they are doing or practising a new skill. For example, one child was supported by a staff member to climb four steps. As their confidence grew, they allowed the staff member to move away slightly and eventually climbed three steps without support, receiving praise for their achievement. Good attention is given to children's physical needs. They have healthy, freshly cooked meals each day. Babies experience calm and caring nappy changing routines.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are developing a wide range of skills and qualities that prepare them well for future learning. They make good progress when they are at the nursery. Babies are beginning to notice that the pencil they are using on paper is making the marks they can see. Older children write letters and some of them independently write their name. Young children practise using mathematical language, such as full and empty, correctly as they play in the sand with staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409512
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1045475
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 - 9
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	52
Name of provider	Sarah Jayne Moore
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2013
Telephone number	01476 860 053

Little Legs Nursery registered under the current owner in 2010. It is a privately owned provision and operates from the Community Youth Club building in Colsterworth in Lincolnshire. There are currently nine staff working directly with children, five of whom have an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 or above. Opening times are Monday to Friday all year round from 7am until 6pm, except for public holidays and a week over the Christmas period. The setting receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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