

Raindrops Nursery

Millhayes Sports Pavillion Tunstall Road, Stoke on Trent, ST8 7AQ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

31 August 2016

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider has not effectively assessed the possible risks associated with the nappy changing and toileting procedures. Consequently, the safety of staff and children is not assured during this time.
- The key-person procedures do not fully support children's learning and development during staff's planned leave, which hinders their overall progress.
- Drinking water is not readily available and accessible for children at all times.
- Staff do not support all children to speak clearly, as some children use their soothing dummies for extended periods of time in the nursery.
- Parents are not informed about the plans for their child's future learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff show real pleasure in being with the children. They provide children with cuddles, smiles and praise and chat to them throughout the day. They play alongside children and support them as they try out new experiences. This promotes children's self-confidence.
- Children are encouraged to make their own choices and establish their own ideas. This means children explore freely and use their imagination.

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
■ ensure the safety and well-being of all children and staff through more effective and robust risk assessment of the toilet and nappy changing procedures	16/09/2016
■ ensure that there are procedures in place for key persons to share relevant information with other staff, when they are on leave or absent from the nursery, so that children's learning is not disrupted and is consistently tailored to meet their individual needs	30/09/2016
■ ensure that drinking water is available and accessible to all children at all times.	16/09/2016

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

- extend the opportunities for children to speak clearly, without the use of soothing dummies, so that they develop the skills they need to use language as a means of sharing feelings, experiences and thoughts
- put in place more effective arrangements for making sure that all parents are well informed about the plans for their children's future learning.

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the acting nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the acting nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day and from information included in the setting's own parent survey.

Inspector

Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The provider has not considered the risks associated with the nappy changing and toileting procedures, in order to ensure children's and staff's safety and well-being. The physical environment does not allow the manager to monitor staff practice during this time as the door leading to the toilet area is always closed. However, staff are aware of the procedure they must follow if they have any concerns that a child is suffering from abuse. The manager checks the activities provided and makes sure that all relevant areas of learning are included in the planning. Staff assess children's achievements. Any gaps in children's learning are identified and set as a focus. Partnerships with parents are generally good. Staff gather information from them about their child's care needs before they start. However, parents are not always fully informed about the plans for their children's future learning. Staff have regular individual support meetings where they can discuss any concerns and their future training requirements. There are effective procedures in place to deal with children's accidents or injuries. These are appropriately recorded and shared with parents. The provider understands about the significant changes that need to be notified to Ofsted. They have developed links with the local authority adviser to help identify and act on areas for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Although there is some good teaching taking place, this is not consistent. The key-person system is not effective when staff take planned leave as information about children is not shared appropriately with other staff. Consequently, staff do not always have all the information they need to plan effectively for children's next steps in learning. As a result, some children are not achieving their full potential, although they are gaining the basic skills they need to be ready for school. Some children are not fully supported in developing their speaking skills, as they are not sensitively encouraged to remove their soothing dummies before trying to communicate. Children do take part in a range of enjoyable activities. They stick and glue using a selection of collage materials. They are encouraged to explore colour, texture and shape and to use their imagination. During such activities, staff talk to children and ask them questions to extend their thinking and vocabulary. Staff support children's role play and encourage children to play together, share and take turns.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children do not have access to drinking water at all times. Meals and snacks provided for children are nutritious and well balanced. Staff speak calmly to children as they praise their achievements, which helps to promote their self-esteem and reinforces good behaviour. The play area is well organised and children are encouraged to put toys away before they start playing with something new. Children are supervised well in the playroom and during outdoor play. Children enjoy spending time outdoors. They use the sit-on trucks, small trampoline and slide to develop their physical skills. The provider offers children opportunities to experience physical challenge as they regularly visit the local playground to use the climbing apparatus.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in the key-person systems means that children are not supported well enough to make consistently good progress in their learning overall. Children learn about the wider society and how to understand and respect the differences and similarities of people. Children are confident and happy. They interact freely and enthusiastically with staff and visitors about what they are doing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480374
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1071914
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 - 3
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Raindrops Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904796
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01782 516763

Raindrops Nursery was registered in 2014 and is one of three settings managed by Raindrops Nursery Limited. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 5, six at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday and all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

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