

# Beacon Lane Day Nursery

22 Beacon Lane, GRANTHAM, Lincolnshire, NG31 9DF



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 September 2016

Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- The manager does not understand the correct procedures to follow when allegations are made against staff. She also does not understand who to report these concerns to.
- The manager does not always follow the correct procedures for assessing the suitability of family members who occasionally work in the nursery.
- Arrangements for professional development are not yet embedded in practice to consistently raise the quality of teaching to an even higher standard.
- Occasionally, staff working with toddlers in Blossom room 1, do not extend children's learning enough during activities that children choose for themselves.

### It has the following strengths

- All children make good progress in their learning from their individual starting points. Children enjoy taking part in a wide range of planned activities which builds on their prior knowledge and skills.
- Staff give children praise and encouragement for their achievements. Children are keen learners who are willing to try new things and have a go. They behave well because staff are good role models who help them to understand what is expected of them.
- Children in receipt of additional funding are supported very well. The manager works closely with parents and individual children to set personal goals that support their emotional well-being and development. This effectively promotes children's sense of self-accomplishment, their confidence and improves outcomes for children.
- The learning environment is a particular strength of the setting. Resources are used well by staff to encourage and support children's curiosity, imagination and communication development.

## 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:

	<b>Due Date</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ improve knowledge of child protection procedures, with particular regard to the action taken in the event of an allegation being made about a staff member and ensuring relevant agencies are informed</li> </ul>	30/09/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ ensure the same stringent procedure is followed for obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check for anyone working with children.</li> </ul>	30/09/2016

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

- sharpen the focus of supervisions of staff to consistently raise the quality of their teaching to a higher standard, so that children make more rapid progress in their development
- guide staff working with toddlers in Blossom room 1 to recognise and more consistently use opportunities to extend children's learning during activities that children have freely chosen to engage in.

### 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 completed two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the 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 held discussions with staff members and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Carly Polak

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate**

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The manager lacks understanding of the procedures to follow if there is a safeguarding allegation made about a member of staff. She is unfamiliar with the requirement to notify Ofsted and the Local Authority Designated Officer of any such concerns. The nursery has a clear child protection policy in place that explains these processes. However, the manager is unsure how this would be applied if needed. Even so, the manager keeps up to date with any changes in legislation around child protection. The manager and staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to keep children safe through effective risk assessments. Robust recruitment procedures are in place and have been implemented for permanent members of staff. However, the manager has failed to follow the same procedures for family members who work occasionally with the children. The manager is well qualified, experienced and extremely determined to improve outcomes for children. She is beginning to monitor groups of children's progress more closely to ensure potential gaps in their learning are quickly identified and closed. Although there are comprehensive nursery action plans and room improvement plans in place, these are not fully effective. Some of the weaknesses found at the inspection have not been identified for improvement by the manager.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

Staff are well qualified and passionate about supporting children to achieve. They use their knowledge to plan an environment that encourages children to lead their own learning. Staff observe, assess and plan effectively for each child because they have a clear knowledge of individual children's learning needs. Children are active learners as they freely move around, selecting what they want to play with. Staff are skilful at engaging children in discussions. They model language during play and use questions effectively to help develop children's thinking skills. Overall, children benefit from good quality teaching, which is occasionally outstanding.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate**

Weaknesses in leadership and management compromise children's safety and well-being. That said, staff knowledgeably plan activities and experiences to provide stimulating and challenging experiences that motivate and interest children. The outside area promotes children's physical skills and develops their confidence very well. Children test out their ideas, set themselves challenges and learn to take small risks in a safe environment. Babies' needs are well met because staff gather in-depth information regarding their individual routines. Meals and snacks are home made and provide children with a well-balanced diet. Children's independence is effectively promoted as they choose when to eat and what to play with. They learn to manage their personal care needs competently.

### **Outcomes for children are good**

Children of all ages and abilities, including those who receive funded early education, make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children in the pre-school room show high levels of engagement as they play at a chosen activity for long periods of time. They make predictions and test out their ideas as they race their cars and trucks down a

paper ramp. Toddlers in Blossom room 2 are confident communicators. Staff in this particular room provide rich opportunities to develop their spoken language skills. Children have a real thirst for learning and are highly motivated to take part in activities that are offered. Older children are well prepared, confident and ready for their next stage in learning, including starting school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY481978
<b>Local authority</b>	Lincolnshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	995884
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	73
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	100
<b>Name of registered person</b>	First Explorers Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP534019
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01476 577337

Beacon Lane Day Nursery was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with qualified teacher status and one with a Degree in Early Years. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 8am until 6pm, all year round except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas.

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