

Caring Kindergartens

48 Hardwick Road, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, NN8 5AD



Inspection date	21 November 2016
Previous inspection date	22 August 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Since the last inspection, there has been a significant number of changes to the management and staff teams. This has had a negative impact on the quality of children's care and learning.
- Younger children's emotional well-being and individual needs are not met. Their safety is compromised at times because staff are not deployed effectively.
- The quality of teaching for younger children is ineffective. Staff prioritise attending to routine tasks and do not consistently interact directly with children to support their learning and development.
- Babies are not protected from the risk of cross-infection. The bedding in the cots is dirty and not changed frequently enough to promote their good health.
- Younger children who have gaps in their learning do not have targeted plans in place to ensure they are supported in their future learning and development.

It has the following strengths

- Pre-school children are provided with appropriate activities that they are interested in and which provide suitable challenges to help them make progress in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are established. They speak positively about the nursery and say that staff are approachable.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that the deployment of staff is effective in meeting the needs of children and ensuring their safety, particularly with regard to younger children 	22/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure there are effective arrangements to support children who have gaps in their learning, in order to identify and implement appropriate interventions where necessary 	22/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve the quality of teaching for younger children so that they are sufficiently challenged and receive consistent and effective support during all activities to help them to make good progress 	22/12/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ promote children's good health, taking appropriate action to minimise the risk of the spread of cross-infection with particular regard to the bedding used by younger children 	22/12/2016

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process after concerns were raised with Ofsted.
- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- One inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspectors held meetings with the nursery manager, one member of staff, the company operations and business development manager and the head of childcare. They looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell and Linda Newcombe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are ineffective. While ratios on the premises meet the requirements, the deployment of staff, particularly in the baby and toddler rooms, means that the needs of the younger children are not always effectively met. A number of accidents have occurred because staff are preoccupied with managing children's care routines and daily tasks. Some children who have gaps in their learning do not receive the support they need and staff do not identify targeted intervention plans for them. Staff have a suitable knowledge of how to recognise and report any child protection concerns they may have about a child in their care. The new manager is being supported by senior management and has begun to implement plans for improvement. This is beginning to show in the quality of teaching from staff in the pre-school room. However, the management team has failed to identify and address the significant weaknesses in the quality of care, teaching and learning in the baby and toddler rooms.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

The quality of teaching is inconsistent and variable within the nursery despite the levels of qualifications of some staff. Younger children are not provided with support or teaching by staff to stimulate their learning or to motivate them to explore their environment. The ineffective deployment of staff means they are unable to provide good quality experiences and interactions with the youngest children. Staff do not spend time interacting effectively with children to support their learning and development. For example, children resort to throwing books around, as staff do not recognise the need to sit and support them in looking through the books and developing a love of books and stories. Pre-school children receive better learning experiences and interaction from staff. They play with children, promoting their listening and communication skills during group activities. For example, they talk about the date and weather and take part in show-and-tell activities where they bring items from home that start with the letter of the week. This helps to develop their confidence to talk in front of a small group.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Younger children's emotional well-being is not promoted. Babies are not able to settle in well when they start attending because the staff are not deployed effectively to meet children's individual needs for comfort and reassurance. Frequent changes to staff in the baby and toddler rooms during the day results in children not being able to form secure attachments. Children's health is not promoted effectively. On the day of inspection, the bedding on the cots in the babies' sleep room had not been changed and showed signs of previous use, including food debris. Older children are able to develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles as they are taken into the garden to play. Suitable strategies are in place to manage children's behaviour. Staff complete training and discuss the behaviour management policy during team meetings. Children are provided with suitable meals and snacks. Parents provide details about any allergies or specific requirements that are managed by the staff. There are sufficient play materials and resources available in the group rooms that cover the different areas of learning.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

There are significant weaknesses in the quality of teaching and learning, particularly for younger children and those who have special educational needs or disabilities. This means that children in these specific groups are not making enough progress in their learning and development. Younger children do not have sufficient learning opportunities and they are not provided with suitable challenges to help them make the best progress. Pre-school children are learning some skills that help to prepare them for their future learning. They are becoming independent as they serve themselves at snack time and put their coats and shoes on ready for outside play. They are learning to respect one another, take turns and share.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220176
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1077850
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	Caring Kindergartens Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522306
Date of previous inspection	22 August 2013
Telephone number	01933 225633

Caring Kindergartens was registered in 2000 and is managed by Caring Kindergartens Ltd. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 19 hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 2 and 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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