

Bluebells Day Nursery

25 Bleakhouse Road, Oldbury, West Midlands, B68 9DR



Inspection date

17 February 2017

Previous inspection date

17 May 2013

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Inadequate | 4 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| 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

- Leaders do not ensure that the premises are safe. Radiators, that children have access to, are too hot to touch.
- Management do not have procedures in place to ensure that staff are medically fit to work with children.
- Leaders do not ensure that activities are assessed for risks, particularly staff working with the youngest children.
- At times, staff do not fully support children to learn how to pronounce or use words correctly as they help to further enhance their developing speaking skills.
- Parents are not provided with enough information to help them continue to support their children's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- Regular supervision meetings and appraisals help the manager to monitor and maintain the good quality of teaching within the nursery.
- Staff are kind and welcoming and develop strong bonds with their key children.
- Staff help children to learn about the importance of having a healthy diet and the benefit of regular exercise on their bodies.
- Staff are well qualified. The manager ensures that staff receive regular, ongoing training to support their continuous professional development. This has a positive impact on children's progress.

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"> ■ ensure that the premises and equipment used for the purpose of childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare, in particular the temperature of the radiators accessible to children | 20/02/2017 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ implement procedures to ensure that all staff are medically fit to work with children | 06/03/2017 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that risk assessments are completed and all reasonable steps to remove, minimise and manage risks are taken, with particular regard to choking risks associated with resources provided to the youngest children. | 06/03/2017 |

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

- use more effective strategies to further enhance children's developing speaking skills
- provide enough information to help parents to continue their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and children's key persons. She carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation, such as children's records, accident forms and children's attendance records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation and plans for improvement.
- The inspector took account of the views of staff, parents and children spoken to on the day, along with written questionnaires completed by parents.

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Leaders have failed to identify hazards in the nursery environment that put children's safety at risk. For example, radiators that do not have protective covers on are too hot to touch and are accessible to children. The provider does not ensure that procedures are in place to ensure that all staff are medically fit to work with children. That said, managers and staff have a good knowledge of child protection. They know the potential signs of abuse and when and where to refer any concerns they may have about a child's welfare. The manager has effective systems in place to monitor the curriculum and check children's attainment. She quickly identifies any aspects of learning to target further and seeks outside professional support if necessary.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They make regular observations and accurate assessments of children's development during play and routines. They use this information to plan and provide interesting and challenging activities that help to consolidate and extend children's learning. Children benefit from good teaching skills. Babies giggle and engage with staff as they enjoy sensory play. Staff show them how to use resources in different ways. For example, they teach them how to build with blocks and how to bang them together to make sounds. Staff working with children between the ages of two and three years engage them well through effective interaction. Children enjoy a good variety of interesting and stimulating activities and freely make their own play choices. Staff demonstrate high levels of enthusiasm as they join in children's play and encourage stimulating conversations to promote their language skills. Staff help children to learn to count and recognise shapes. Older children are learning to recognise letters and some can write their own names. Skilled staff promote their imaginative skills well. During role play, they encourage children to retell their favourite story. Children work as a team, recalling the story, repeating refrains and acting out the parts of the characters.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff do not assess the resources they use with regard to potential choking risks for very young children. On the day of the inspection, a child put an uncooked pasta shell in their mouth unnoticed by staff. This significantly compromises children's safety. Children are happy in the nursery and are confident to make choices and lead their own play. They behave well and are polite and respectful to adults and each other. Children share resources well and are happy to take turns.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's early literacy and communications skills are developing well. They are developing good pencil control and some can write their own name. Children develop their independence as they tidy away resources and dress themselves. Older children learn to recognise numbers, name shapes and make comparisons during their play. They are developing a love of books. This means they are gaining the essential skills they need in readiness for their future move to school.

Setting details

| | |
|--|---|
| Unique reference number | 403707 |
| Local authority | Sandwell |
| Inspection number | 1064156 |
| 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 - 11 |
| Total number of places | 46 |
| Number of children on roll | 47 |
| Name of registered person | Nurseries UK Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP522842 |
| Date of previous inspection | 17 May 2013 |
| Telephone number | 0121 421 6497 |

Bluebells Day Nursery was registered in 2001. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 3 to 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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