

Furness Childcare

The Corner House, High Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA14 1QY



Inspection date

9 February 2017

Previous inspection date

28 November 2014

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		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not always seek support for those children that need more support in a timely manner. This means that progress slows.
- Not all new members of staff are aware of who the designated person, who takes the lead responsibility for safeguarding children is. However, staff are aware to refer concerns to the management team.
- Resources to support children to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others are insufficient. This does not help to prepare children for life in modern Britain.
- Staff do not always provide opportunities for children to further develop their independence skills.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents is a high priority. Staff work closely with parents to ensure they share the children's experiences. The management team are always available to discuss any aspects of care a child receives.
- Leaders and managers have a clear understanding of the nursery's weaknesses. They have taken action to ensure staff are receiving regular supervision. This is having a positive impact on the quality of care and education.
- Children are well-behaved because staff are positive role models for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure that when children are falling behind in their development, staff seek the necessary support to meet children's individual learning and development need in a timely manner	22/02/2017
■ ensure that induction training includes opportunities for staff to clearly understand the role of the designated officer for safeguarding children.	22/02/2017

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

- provide sufficient resources for children to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others
- increase opportunities for children to develop their independence skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents to take their views into account.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documents, including policies and procedures, improvement plans and children's learning and assessment documents.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Alison Frances Tranby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Leaders and managers are aware that improvements are needed. Consequently, they have implemented effective action plans to make some improvements. Recent changes to the leadership and management team have resulted in a high turnover of staff and changes in key persons. However, children are now establishing secure relationships with their new key person. Safeguarding is effective. Although induction procedures lack detail on the role of the designated officer, staff are well qualified and have a good understanding of the safeguarding procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child. Children's attendance is closely monitored. The nursery is clean and welcoming which helps children to feel safe and secure.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Resources to enable children to learn the similarities and differences between themselves and others are limited. For example, books about fire fighters represent males in the role only. This does not help to prepare children for life in modern Britain. Steps have been taken to improve planning and staff support children well. Children enjoy exploring their environment. In the pre-school room, staff use some good teaching strategies that help children to learn new things. For example, children develop an awareness of early science. They eagerly engage in making cornflour and enjoy learning about the changes in textures, substances and colours.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff do not always provide enough opportunities for children to develop their independence skills. For example, children do not self-serve their lunch or assist when setting the table. The nursery has developed close links with local schools. This helps staff to share useful information with children's new practitioners and support children in readiness for school. Staff and parents work well together and children's routines are discussed during settling in sessions. Pre-school children develop good levels of working together which helps to prepare them for school. Children aged two to three years enjoy digging and playing with soil. This develops their physical skills well.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children's progress varies across the nursery. Babies do not make consistently good progress, as when emerging concerns have been identified, support has not been sought quickly enough. Older children are confident and ready to progress to school when the time comes. Children develop a love of books from an early age. They eagerly look for pictures and stories about insects. This helps to support their early reading skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY239993
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1082773
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	65
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Furness Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP520832
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2014
Telephone number	01229 828444

Furness Childcare Ltd was registered in 2003 and is situated in the centre of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, of these; nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including one member of staff with early years professional status and three members of staff with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two to four years.

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