

# Lace Hill Day Nursery

Lace Hill Community Centre, Catchpin Street, Buckingham, MK18 7RR



## Inspection date

19 May 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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:

- The provider does not ensure that children have a key person when they first start in the nursery.
- The provider offers some supervisory sessions and support for staff but these do not lead to consistently good practice. There is some variation in the quality of teaching.
- Leaders and managers ensure that all children are making some progress, but they do not monitor assessment procedures carefully. The staff team's approach to tracking children's development and planning for their individual needs is inconsistent.
- The provider does not make the best use of self-evaluation to identify all areas of weakness. The nursery requires improvement to achieve good outcomes for all children.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff are kind and caring. They support children's behaviour well and act as positive role models for children.
- Children generally enjoy their play experiences and acquire some helpful skills.
- The provider ensures that the premises are safe and secure and that staff supervise children effectively to help keep them safe.
- Staff help children to learn about healthy lifestyles and they encourage some independence to prepare children for their future lives.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	<b>Due Date</b>
■ ensure that every child has a key person when they start attending the nursery, to support their care and learning needs fully and to help them settle more quickly	19/07/2017
■ develop the quality of supervisory sessions and support for staff, to encourage teamwork and continuous improvement to lead to better outcomes for children	19/07/2017
■ develop effective monitoring procedures to support observation, assessment and planning procedures fully and to achieve consistency in the quality of teaching.	19/07/2017

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

- improve self-evaluation processes to identify areas of weakness more carefully and address these promptly to achieve the best outcomes for children.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector talked to staff, managers and the registered provider at appropriate points throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, the nursery's self-evaluation form and evidence of staff training and suitability.

**Inspector**  
Gillian Little

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement**

The provider does not monitor practice or support staff well enough to ensure that she meets all legal requirements effectively. There are weaknesses in the key-person system, assessment procedures and the quality of teaching, despite staff holding appropriate qualifications. There is currently a high turnover of staff, but the provider recruits new staff to replace those leaving and to introduce new skills and experience to support children further. Safeguarding is effective. The provider maintains suitable ratios and deploys staff appropriately to help keep children safe. Leaders and managers support staff to understand their responsibility to recognise concerns about children's welfare and respond to these effectively.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement**

Staff sometimes miss opportunities to challenge older children to help them benefit more from activities. For example, although staff help children to use tools and develop some vocabulary as they enjoy exploring modelling dough, they do not use the activity well to teach skills in other areas of learning. Staff interact with children routinely as they support their play and daily routines to encourage progress in their communication and language development. They build appropriate partnerships with parents, carers and other settings that children attend to encourage some continuity in children's care and learning.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement**

Staff supervise children well to help keep them safe. They reassure children who are unsettled and help them to develop some confidence, although they do not build key relationships effectively with children who are new to the nursery. Staff encourage children's independence at times and give them some opportunities to make choices. Staff support children to understand behavioural expectations effectively, for example, they help them to become aware of each other's feelings when disagreements arise. Staff enable children to learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they encourage some physical play while children enjoy exploring the outdoor environment.

### **Outcomes for children require improvement**

All children make some progress in preparation for their next steps in learning and for their later school lives. However, some children do not progress as well as they might due to limitations in the quality of teaching and monitoring procedures. Children new to the nursery are tearful and unsettled at times and are not able to build secure relationships with staff promptly. Nevertheless, most children show good levels of behaviour and enjoy playing with their friends. They enjoy developing their imaginations and listening to stories to support their creativity and early literacy development.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY496552
<b>Local authority</b>	Buckinghamshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1098608
<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>	94
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	31
<b>Name of registered person</b>	L Y Trading Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP901346
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	07584 309496

Lace Hill Day Nursey registered in 2016. It is run by LY Trading limited and is one of four settings. It is located in Lace Hill Community Centre in Buckingham. The nursery is open on weekdays throughout the year from 7am until 6.30pm. A holiday club for older children is sometimes available on weekdays from 7.30am until 6pm during school holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs eight staff, of whom six hold relevant qualifications from level 2 to level 5.

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