Playways Day Nursery

2 Amherst Road, Ealing, London, W13 8ND



Inspection date1 June 2017Previous inspection date23 March 2015

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:

- The provider does not ensure that risk assessments of the provision are sufficiently thorough to help staff identify and remove any hazards so that children play in a safe environment.
- Self-evaluation processes are not fully effective in identifying and targeting all weaknesses in practice to ensure better outcomes for children.
- The quality of teaching is not consistent across the pre-school. Some staff do not consistently plan and organise activities for all children according to their interests so that children are able to fully engage and benefit from the experience.
- Sometimes, staff do not make full use of opportunities for children to develop their independence, such as during routine times.

It has the following strengths

- Parents report that they are happy with the service they receive. They find the staff and manager approachable, and feel informed about their children's learning.
- Children make choices about their play from the suitable range of equipment in the welcoming environment.
- Children manage their personal care well and learn the importance of good hygiene.
- Children learn mathematical skills as they play. They are proud to express their achievements. For example, some children were keen to show that they knew how to add and write numbers.

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

improve staff's skills to identify any health and safety hazards, to 13/07/2017 maintain the areas children use and to keep them safe.

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

- develop self-evaluation processes further to consistently identify and address all areas for improvement
- build on existing monitoring of staff practice to strengthen the quality of teaching even further
- support the staff to extend the current opportunities for children that help them develop their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises, observed equipment used indoors and outdoors, and sampled risk assessments and environmental reports.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff and sampled documents, including observations, planning and assessments of children's progress.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management to check evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents at the setting and considered their views.

Inspector

Rizwana Nagoor

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a sound understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow to protect children from harm. The manager keeps up to date with mandatory training, such as first aid and safeguarding. Staff carry out risk assessments; however, they do not consistently use this information to good effect to take all reasonable steps to ensure children are not exposed to risks in the first instance. The manager meets with staff to discuss their teaching practice and identify any training needs. However, sometimes the methods to monitor staff practice are not effective to specifically target priority areas for further development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Children have opportunities to develop their early reading skills. For instance, staff read to them and children enjoy saying parts of the story that help develop their storytelling and language skills. Children like to practise their early writing skills. For example, they enjoy making marks on the chalkboard and gain an awareness of how to use tools for a variety of purposes. Young children access a suitable range of activities to develop their creativity. For example, babies enjoy playing with natural resources and toddlers sing enthusiastically as they move their bodies. However, the quality of teaching is inconsistent. On occasions, some staff focus on supervising children rather than teaching. For example, at times, they do not consistently talk with children or engage them effectively in activities. Staff complete regular observations and assessments of children's play and share this information with parents.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff do not consistently take appropriate action to promptly reduce any risks to children. However, while this does not fully assure children's safety, staff supervise children at all times to minimise the impact of any hazards. Staff and children form suitable relationships, which help to support children's emotional well-being. Children are happy, settle easily and enjoy sharing their play with their friends and staff. They display high levels of self-esteem. Children are supported to lead healthy lifestyles, such as through daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They show increasing physical skills, for example, as they use the climbing frame and pedal bicycles carefully through the outdoor environment. Staff teach children about people, cultures and traditions from around the world, which helps to develop their understanding of differences in society.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Overall, children make suitable progress in their learning and develop the necessary skills for their move on to school. They grow in confidence as they make choices about what to do. They play cooperatively and learn to share. However, some inconsistencies in teaching prevent children from making the progress they should.

Setting details

Unique reference number 118126

Local authority Ealing

Inspection number 1089196

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 4

Total number of places 26

Number of children on roll 30

Name of registered person Playways Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP519257

Date of previous inspection 23 March 2015

Telephone number 0208 998 2723

Playways Day Nursery registered in 1998. It is situated in the London Borough of Ealing. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year, except for bank holidays. The provider currently employs 12 staff. Of these, seven hold relevant qualifications at level 3, two hold qualifications at level 2 and two are unqualified. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years.

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