

Storytime Nursery School

Kersey House, Queens Place, Southsea, Hampshire, PO5 3HF



Inspection date

9 June 2017

Previous inspection date

24 April 2015

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

- The provider has not obtained enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks for all adults that have regular access to children. This is also a breach of Childcare Register.
- Security arrangements at the setting are not good enough. Staff do not have full control over who enters the setting through the provider's home.
- The provider and staff do not have a secure understanding of wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty guidance, to protect children from extreme views.
- The provider's self-evaluation is limited. She does not reflect on all aspects of practice rigorously enough to identify weaknesses and where improvements are needed.
- At times, staff do not give children time to process information and respond.

It has the following strengths

- Children are confident little explorers. They really enjoy investigating resources in the play area and they make their own choices about what they want to play with. Staff are always nearby to offer children a helping hand. Children are confident to seek support.
- Staff encourage children to share toys with friends, they teach them to compromise and to resolve disputes quickly. Children behave well. They are thoughtful and support friends. Children are able to concentrate and they learn in a calm, friendly environment.
- Staff concentrate on teaching children valuable skills. For example, they develop early writing skills. Staff model using the resources very well and children follow their effective guidance. Children attain well in every area of their learning.

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
■ obtain enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks for all adults living on the linked premises and those who have contact with children	21/07/2017
■ take all reasonable steps to improve security of the premises to make sure that only checked adults are able to enter the nursery through the linked premises	23/06/2017
■ ensure that all staff understand their responsibilities under the 'Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2015'.	09/07/2017

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

- improve self-evaluation to identify and address weaknesses in practice and areas for improvement
- allow children time to process information that they are being given and to think about their response.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children in all areas of the setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents about their experiences and about guidance that staff give to them to support their children at home.
- The inspector reviewed documents about children's learning and talked to staff about the progress children are making.
- The inspector viewed safeguarding policies and spoke to staff about the procedures they follow to keep children safe.
- The inspector jointly observed an activity with the provider and discussed what had been seen.

Inspector

Julie Bruce

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

There are major weaknesses in the way the provider monitors and evaluates her provision. Safeguarding is not effective. The provider has not identified issues that compromise children's safety and made necessary changes. She has not carried out the required criminal records check in respect of her husband who lives in the linked premises. There are also security concerns that need to be addressed, to make sure that unchecked adults are not able to access the nursery area through the domestic premises. Staff have a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and they are confident to report worries. However, there are gaps in their knowledge about how to help protect young children from radical views. The provider monitors children's learning effectively. For instance, she talks to staff about how they can support individual children to make progress. Recently, a number of staff have completed childcare qualifications and they share new learning with colleagues.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children use their imaginations, for example, to build a really large zoo to hold their toy animals. They discuss the areas animals would need, depending on their size, and work together to build the structure. Staff communicate very well with parents. They share accurate assessment information and discuss what they will be working on next with children. They have also worked to improve parents' understanding of healthy eating. Staff now discuss nutrition with parents and children bring in healthier food options. Staff encourage children to learn about letters and the sounds that they represent. For instance, children practise blending letters together to make particular sounds. Children are resilient and will keep working until they complete a task. However, staff do not always allow children enough time to answer questions before moving on.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

There are a number of breaches in the safeguarding and welfare requirements that compromise children's well-being. However, staff are caring and kind. Children approach them when they need emotional support. Children enjoy learning about the lives of others and the places in which they live. For instance, they learn about the landscape of other countries and say simple words in other languages. Staff encourage children to move their bodies and make full use of space.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn useful mathematical skills. Older children use positional language in their play and younger children successfully complete suitable games and puzzles. Staff prepare children well for the challenge of moving on to school. Children make good levels of progress from the time they start attending, in all areas of learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	143561
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	1089666
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Storytime Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP523048
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2015
Telephone number	02392 754832

Storytime Nursery School is privately owned and registered in 1993. It operates from the ground floor of a Victorian house in the Southsea area of Hampshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 49 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-olds. There are five members of staff who work with children, four of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at levels 3 or 5.

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