

Little Jimmy's Pre-school

St James Church Hall, Tower Road, Clacton On Sea, Essex, CO15 1LF



Inspection date

4 July 2017

Previous inspection date

23 June 2014

| 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 | | Inadequate | 4 |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare | | Inadequate | 4 |
| Outcomes for children | | Inadequate | 4 |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider has not ensured that risk assessments are used effectively to identify all hazards, particularly in the garden where children are at significant risk of harm. She has not ensured that staff keep a daily record of children's times of attendance, as required. These are also breaches of the Childcare Register requirements.
- The provider does not ensure that staff implement the behaviour policy consistently to help children learn how to manage their behaviour. In addition, the provider does not monitor staff deployment effectively to ensure children are supervised well.
- Staff do not gather sufficient information from parents about children's abilities and likes when they start in order to help meet their needs. In addition, some staff do not know their key children's current abilities or their development levels over time.
- Staff do not engage and support children effectively. They fail to observe and assess children's achievements regularly to help them plan for what children need to learn next. Staff do not make the most of the available resources to challenge, engage and motivate children in their learning. This significantly hinders the progress children make.
- The provider does not make effective use of self-evaluation to precisely identify all breaches of legal requirements and weaknesses in practice.

It has the following strengths

- The manager, deputy and staff are suitably qualified and undergo regular checks to declare their suitability to work with children.

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 |
|--|-----------------|
| ■ use risk assessment effectively to identify all hazards, including those in the garden area, and take prompt action to minimise risks in order to maintain a safe play environment | 12/07/2017 |
| ■ ensure a daily record of children's arrival and departure times is maintained | 12/07/2017 |
| ■ improve the consistency in which staff manage children's behaviour, particularly indoors | 21/07/2017 |
| ■ improve staff deployment to ensure children are supervised well and that their individual needs are met | 21/07/2017 |
| ■ improve partnerships with parents to gather a wider range of detailed information about children in order to help fully meet and support their needs | 21/07/2017 |
| ■ improve the quality of teaching to provide children with consistent support and guidance in order to help them make the best possible progress | 21/07/2017 |
| ■ use observation and assessment effectively to accurately identify what children can do, and to help plan for the next steps in their learning successfully | 21/07/2017 |
| ■ ensure resources are age appropriate and used effectively to provide children with suitably challenging, interesting learning experiences. | 21/07/2017 |

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

- use self-evaluation effectively to identify breaches in legal requirements and weaknesses in practice in order to improve outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises to see the areas children use.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff, parents and the deputy manager.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager and held discussions with regard to children's engagement and learning.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, including staff files, suitability checks, risk assessments and registers.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and tracking of their achievements.

Inspector

Sue Mann

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. The provider does not use self-evaluation to consistently monitor all aspects of practice. There are a significant number of breaches of legal requirements, which does not support children's safety and welfare. The provider has failed to ensure that staff thoroughly risk assess all aspects of the environment, particularly the garden. For example, children play near stinging nettles and a rusting shipping container, which pose a significant risk to their safety. The provider does not ensure that staff maintain an accurate record of the actual times children arrive and depart. This does not help staff to identify children who regularly arrive late or leave early. Staff know what to do if they have any concerns that a child is at risk of abuse. The new deputy manager has already met with staff individually to discuss their training needs and has identified some of the many aspects of their teaching and the environment which are inadequate.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

The quality of teaching is poor. Staff's interactions with children are instructional rather than to help engage and motivate them in their play and learning. For example, staff stand over children rather than taking the opportunity to discuss the significance of the flag they are colouring in. Furthermore, the range of resources available to children is mundane and not always age appropriate. For example, staff fail to identify when toys are designed for older children or provide sufficient resources to keep children's interest for more than a couple of minutes. Staff fail to gather sufficient information about children's home life and their current abilities from parents when they start. They do not regularly observe and assess children's play to track their achievements. Assessments and tracking of children's progress are not accurate. Not all staff know where their key children are in their learning, and planned activities do not build on what children know and can do.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The provider does not deploy staff effectively. For example, too many staff clear and clean tables after snack time, leaving one member of staff to manage all the children. Staff do not remind children of the expectations for their behaviour. For example, when younger children run around the room, staff fail to intervene and remind them why it is not safe to run indoors. Staff have links with other professionals, such as health visitors, and contact teachers to arrange meetings and share some relevant information prior to children starting school. Parents comment that they have good relationships with staff and feel able to approach them to talk about their children.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children's progress is limited due to the weaknesses in the quality of teaching and assessment. However, they are independent and confident. For example, children approach staff to share their thoughts or for a cuddle when they need reassurance. They have a developing understanding of how to look after themselves in the sun. For example, older children remember to put on their sun hats and wait for their sun cream.

Setting details

| | |
|--|---|
| Unique reference number | EY415398 |
| Local authority | Essex |
| Inspection number | 1088107 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register |
| Age range of children | 2 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 40 |
| Number of children on roll | 71 |
| Name of registered person | Little Jimmy's Preschool Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP905813 |
| Date of previous inspection | 23 June 2014 |
| Telephone number | 01255427629 |

Little Jimmy's Pre-school registered in 2010. It is situated in a church building in Clacton on Sea, Essex, and is run as a limited company. There are nine members of staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am, with lunch from 11.45am until 12.30pm, and afternoon sessions from 12.30pm until 3.30pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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