

Inspection date

27 September 2017

Previous inspection date

3 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

- Safety arrangements are weak. The provider has not ensured that staff follow the procedures she has put in place to protect children. Staff are not vigilant in their supervision of children. This poses a significant risk to children's safety and well-being.
- Although the manager monitors the work of staff, she has been unsuccessful in tackling staff under-performance and the quality of teaching.
- Staff do not identify children's starting points in learning and do not make effective use of ongoing observation to accurately monitor children's progress. They do not have a clear understanding of each child's abilities and do not identify their next steps in learning. Children do not receive enough challenge and are not making sufficient progress in their learning and development.
- Information staff share with parents is inconsistent and inaccurate. This does not help to involve parents successfully in their child's learning.
- The organisation of the early part of the session is not effective in meeting young children's needs. This busy period when older children attend for breakfast club unsettles younger children. At times, this leads to poor behaviour.

It has the following strengths

- Children share close, positive relationships with the staff that care for them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that children are adequately supervised at all times and that staff deployment is appropriate to meet children's needs 	13/10/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ take all reasonable steps to ensure that children are not exposed to risks and that safety procedures are followed consistently 	13/10/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ implement effective arrangements for supervision of staff, that provide support, coaching and training, to improve staff practice and promote the interests of children. 	13/10/2017

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

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ implement arrangements to accurately assess children's abilities and ongoing progress, and use this information to plan suitably challenging activities for each child 	31/10/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that parents are kept up to date with accurate information about their children's progress and development 	31/10/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve the daily routine to better support young children's needs at the beginning of the day. 	31/10/2017

Inspection activities

- This inspection was prioritised following a risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Arrangements for safeguarding children are ineffective. Staff fail to carry out suitable safety procedures when children play outside. New procedures were put in place following a previous incident, which included visual checks and a headcount of children before they return inside the building. However, staff do not consistently complete these checks. Since these procedures were instigated, staff have not followed safety measures and the setting has notified Ofsted of another incident where a child was left outside alone in the play area for a short time. This places children's safety at significant risk and compromises their well-being. Staff are qualified, receive training and have regular supervision meetings. However, this has not been effective in improving practice. Staff are aware of child protection issues and know how to report concerns about children's welfare. The manager is aware of the importance of working with other professionals to support children when necessary.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Staff do not recognise children's starting points in learning. They are not confident in assessing children's abilities. Key persons do not effectively identify children's next steps to support their learning. Information that staff rely on to track children's progress is inaccurate. This means that staff cannot establish whether children are making progress or if they need support with their learning. Staff provide parents with information about their child's learning through an online system. However, this information is incomplete and inaccurate. It does not provide parents with up-to-date information to help them to support children's learning at home. When babies play outdoors, staff's attention is spent preventing some children from persistently trying to squeeze through the safety barriers, rather than supporting babies to enjoy activities. In the pre-school room, children enjoy some aspects of their learning, such as a topic about recycling waste materials. These older children use their imagination as they play in the role-play area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children's well-being is compromised because of the risks to their safety. School-aged children are considerate towards younger children. However, during the busy morning at the breakfast club, some young children become aggressive and are unsettled as they sit waiting on the carpet for older children to leave for school. Children sit together at mealtimes throughout the day and eat healthy food. They are offered drinks of water throughout the day. Babies settle well when they separate from their parents. Staff comfort children when they are upset and cuddle them to offer reassurance.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children do not make the progress that they are capable of in their learning and development. Some babies are restless when outdoors and do not settle down to play with activities. Children do not learn about ways to keep themselves safe as they do not follow consistent routines. Children do not learn the good social skills they need to help prepare them for their eventual move to school. They do not experience sufficient levels of challenge to motivate them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY236111
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	1114109
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 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Linslade Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP909398
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2014
Telephone number	07957751919

Linslade Childcare registered at its current location in 2002. It is situated within the grounds of Linslade Lower School, Leighton Buzzard. It is managed by a private provider. There are currently 10 staff working directly with the children. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The setting opens Monday to Friday all year round. The breakfast club operates from 7.30am to 9am. Pre-school sessions are from 9am to midday and 12.30pm to 3.30pm, with the option of a lunch club from midday to 12.30pm. After-school care operates from 3.30pm to 6pm. Holiday care is also offered and this runs from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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