

Muddy Boots Nursery

The Farm House, Boroughbridge Road, Upper Poppleton, YORK, YO26 6QD



Inspection date

12 October 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Risk assessments are not always fully effective in identifying and minimising all potential hazards. Children's safety is not always well supported.
- The manager has not ensured that any changes to practice are effectively shared with the whole staff team.
- Some activities provided for older children are not precisely focused on their stage of development and level of understanding.

It has the following strengths

- The overall quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified staff team skilfully use their knowledge of how young children learn to help them make progress in their learning.
- Parents value the opportunity to be involved in their children's learning and use a variety of ways to share what children have been learning at home.
- Strong partnerships with local schools and external professionals help to support children's individual needs.
- Regular analysis of children's assessment information helps to identify areas where children may require additional support to narrow any gaps in their learning.
- Overall, the manager maintains a good overview of educational activities for children. She works closely with room leaders to ensure most activities reflect children's interests and stage of development.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff help them to understand simple rules and expectations in the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- | | |
|---|------------|
| ■ improve risk assessment procedures to ensure they are fully effective and identify and minimise all potential hazards for children. | 29/10/2017 |
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To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- improve self-evaluation procedures to ensure that any changes in practice are effectively communicated to all staff
- support staff to consistently provide activities that are finely tuned to older children's age and stage of development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of written views provided for the inspection.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Risk assessments carried out in nursery are mostly effective in ensuring areas accessed by children are safe. However, procedures followed by staff on the day of inspection were not fully effective. For example, at lunchtime, children aged from 18 months old were presented with pieces of baby corn that were too large. Although children were supervised by staff, this presents a potential choking hazard and compromises their safety. This was brought to the attention of the manager who immediately took swift action, instructing staff to cut this up for children to minimise the risk. Overall, the manager has suitable arrangements to evaluate the nursery and help staff to improve their teaching. Recent changes to practice have been made. However, the manager has not ensured these changes are fully understood by the whole staff team. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know how to respond should they have any concerns regarding a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Very young children receive high-quality teaching that supports their learning well. Staff demonstrate strong skills in helping children to develop their communication skills. Knowledge from recent training has been implemented well. Staff use an extended range of strategies to support children's understanding. For example, they use signing with children to help them communicate if they would like more to eat. Children who are two years old are helped to develop a love of stories and books. Staff make excellent use of their voices to engage children when reading aloud to them. Children listen intently and join in with the key words and phrases they are familiar with. Most activities provided for older children are planned well and focus on what children need to learn next. Children use equipment provided to help them measure towers they have built from building blocks. However, some activities provided are not precisely focused on their stage of development and level of understanding to promote their learning to its highest level.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

There are occasions when children's safety, in relation to the provision of food, is compromised by ineffective risk assessments. However, children show good levels of confidence and are motivated to explore their surroundings. Very young children are supervised very well as they crawl up and down the steps leading to the outdoor environment. Strong partnerships with parents support children extremely well when they first start attending or when they move rooms within nursery. High-quality information is gathered and provides continuity in children's emotional and physical needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and are well prepared with the skills they need for school. Older children demonstrate strong number skills and count up to 10. They enjoy group activities where they listen and concentrate well and show a keen, positive attitude towards their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548527
Local authority	York
Inspection number	1108524
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	166
Name of registered person	Muddy Boots Nursery Ltd.
Registered person unique reference number	RP903542
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01904 289291

Muddy Boots Nursery registered in 2017. The nursery employs 30 members of childcare staff. Of these 25 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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