

# Alphabet Lanes Nursery & Pre School

St. Lukes's Chambers, Knights Hill, London, SE27 0HS



## Inspection date

13 October 2017

Previous inspection date

28 June 2013

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 does not implement rigorous vetting and recruitment processes. She does not carry out all the relevant checks to ensure staff's suitability to work with children. Staff who are not vetted have unsupervised access to children.
- The provider and staff do not have a sound understanding of safeguarding. This places children at significant risk of harm.
- The provider and staff do not risk assess the environment effectively. They do not identify and minimise hazards to ensure children play safely in their surroundings. This does not support children's safety and welfare.
- The provider does not have effective systems to supervise and monitor her staff to help them develop their knowledge and skills. The quality of teaching is weak. Staff do not interact well with children or develop their learning further.
- Staff do not ensure that fresh drinking water is available for younger children. They do not support children's growing independence to prepare them for their move to school.
- The provider and staff do not use the information gained from their observations and assessments to plan activities tailored to match children's individual learning needs. Children do not reach their full potential.

### It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy some opportunities to play outdoors.

## 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
■ improve the vetting and recruitment processes to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles	06/11/2017
■ ensure staff do not have unsupervised access to children before checks are complete	06/11/2017
■ improve leaders' and staff's knowledge of the 'Prevent' duty and the processes to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare or in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff	06/11/2017
■ take all reasonable steps to ensure that hazards in the environment are removed or minimised, including doors and fencing, cleaning products and hygiene practices when changing and feeding children	06/11/2017
■ put in place appropriate arrangements for the supervision of staff, providing support, coaching and training to ensure children receive a good-quality learning and development experience	06/11/2017
■ ensure that fresh drinking water is readily available for all children.	06/11/2017

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

	Due Date
■ ensure children have opportunities to develop their independence in preparation for their move to school	06/12/2017
■ improve the use of observations and assessments to track children's progress and plan relevant activities that support the next stage in children's learning and help them make the best possible progress.	06/12/2017

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the nursery.

## **Inspector**

Sarah Stephens

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The provider does not have secure recruitment and vetting procedures. She does not make sure that she completes all the relevant checks before staff have unsupervised access to children. She does not obtain Disclosure and Barring Service checks or identification checks for all staff. Staff do not know how to identify children who may be at risk from extreme behaviours and views. They do not understand what may affect their suitability to care for children, including disqualification by association. Staff know basic signs that would cause them to be concerned about a child's welfare. However, they do not know the processes to follow to address safeguarding concerns. Self-evaluation is not effective. The provider does not identify areas of weakness, including breaches in requirements, or set robust targets for improvement to develop the quality of the provision. The provider does not ensure staff have effective supervision, support and training to help them to develop their knowledge and skills so that outcomes for children are good.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

The provider and staff do not use their monitoring processes well. For example, they do not track children's progress precisely to help identify any gaps in development early on and provide the appropriate support. Staff do not use their observation and assessment processes to plan activities that help children make good progress in their learning. Staff interactions with children are weak. They do not help children think for themselves, challenge them or extend their learning. For example, staff provide a play dough activity and children tell them that they have made a fish. However, staff do not build on children's ideas or encourage their creativity. Staff tell children to sit down, not to jump and that they cannot leave the table to go and play as they are doing an activity. Staff provide opportunities to involve parents in their children's care, such as through daily discussions and meetings.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Significant weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety and welfare are compromised. The provider does not ensure that the environment is risk assessed effectively. For example, doors and fencing outside are not secure and cleaning products are left in children's reach. High chairs where babies are fed are next to the nappy changing area. Staff do not successfully support children's good health. Young children do not have fresh drinking water readily available for them. Staff do not support children's independence well. For example, they complete simple tasks that children are capable of doing for themselves. Staff provide positive praise, which assists children's emotional well-being.

### Outcomes for children are inadequate

Weaknesses in teaching have a negative impact on children's learning and they are not supported to build on their existing skills. Children do not develop the key skills in readiness for school. They do not have good enough opportunities to develop their

communication and language or their social skills further. They sit quietly at lunchtime and do not interact with staff or their friends.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY454218
<b>Local authority</b>	Lambeth
<b>Inspection number</b>	1063082
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	26
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Alphabet Lanes Nursery & Pre-school Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP532016
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28 June 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	02086703100

Alphabet Lanes Nursery & Pre School registered in 2012. It is one of two settings owned by the same provider. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6pm from Monday to Friday throughout the year. There are 10 members of staff, eight of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications. Of these, the provider holds early years professional status, four staff hold qualifications at level 3 and three hold qualifications at level 2. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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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