

Claire's Little Robins

Saunders House, Fore Street, Northam, Bideford, North Devon, EX39 1AW



Inspection date

25 October 2017

Previous inspection date

20 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The provider and management do not ensure that staff consistently follow the risk assessments set out in each room, to prioritise children's safety. For example, on occasion, staff leave the door open and allow toddlers to access the first-floor corridor without supervision for short times.
- Staff do not consistently supervise children closely enough. They fail to notice that not all children are with them when they take them to use the toilets.
- Staff do not consistently adapt activities to provide the appropriate level of challenge to engage all children and help them make good progress. During adult-led activities, staff do not recognise when the most able children easily answer their questions and the less confident children do not contribute, to offer individual support for each child.
- The provider and management do not monitor the progress that groups of children make, to identify and target any gaps in learning more quickly.
- Before and during whole group routine tasks, such as snack times, staff do not consistently organise themselves or children well. During these times, children have to wait for too long and staff miss opportunities to engage them and extend their learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff have positive relationships with children. Children are settled. They spontaneously show affection for staff, showing their feelings of security and comfort.
- Staff observe and assess each child's individual development well, to identify their progress and appropriate next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure staff always follow the risk assessment processes in each room, to keep children safe	10/11/2017
■ improve the supervision of children to ensure staff are always aware of where all children are within the setting	10/11/2017
■ improve the quality of teaching to ensure that staff adapt activities to meet the development needs of all children, including those with additional needs, less confidence and the most able children, to ensure all children consistently make good progress in their learning	22/12/2017
■ monitor the progress of groups of children, to track all children's development more closely and identify how to target gaps more effectively, and improve outcomes for all children.	22/12/2017

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

- review the organisation of whole group routines and times when children move between activities, to prevent children from spending too long waiting and to engage them in meaningful learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was brought forward as a result of Ofsted's risk assessment process.
- The inspectors observed routine tasks, children's participation in adult-led activities, and staff as they escorted children between different areas of the premises.
- The inspectors held discussions with staff and children, and spoke with parents to take account of their views.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the provider and management at an appropriate time during the inspection.
- The inspectors sampled a range of documentation, including suitability checks for staff and adults connected to the setting, children's learning records, and certificates for the required insurances, including for vehicles.

Inspector
Sarah Madge

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff are clear about safeguarding procedures to follow in the event of a concern. Robust procedures help to keep children safe when transporting them in vehicles, and ensure the building is secure. However, the provider does not ensure that staff always follow their risk assessments. For example, too many children use the ball pool at one time and some jump in on top of others who have covered themselves with balls to hide. Although the provider ensures appropriate ratios, staff do not always check where the children are. For example, they accompany children to the toilets but do not notice they leave behind two pre-school children, who continue to play unsupervised. Thorough recruitment and vetting ensures staff are knowledgeable and suitable. The provider does not monitor the progress of groups of children to identify and target any gaps in learning effectively. They evaluate some practice and have increased staff support to improve teaching through more rigorous observations of practice. Training has helped staff to engage more with older children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff do not routinely provide the correct level of support to help all children consistently make good progress. For example, while staff wait for outside agencies to make contact with them about children with delayed speaking, they do not provide any extra support in the meantime. At times, staff do not use routine tasks and times well to engage children and extend their learning, meaning children spend too long waiting. Babies confidently explore their environment and try to join in with staff singing familiar rhymes. Toddlers correctly match animal sounds to picture cards and enjoy making the animal noises. Some older children learn about different shapes, which helps to develop their mathematics skills. Parents receive ongoing information from staff about their children's development and care routines, to support children's routines and learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Although staff change nappies hygienically, sometimes they do not follow procedures set out in their risk assessments to clean used potties promptly, to maintain hygienic toilet areas for all children. Staff do not consistently supervise children closely enough, although the premises are secure. Staff manage children's behaviour calmly and effectively, and children are clear about what is expected of them. For example, older children are keen to help put away the toys, which results in a reward. Children benefit from a wide range of nutritious foods, which staff tailor well for children's individual dietary needs.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children settle quickly when they arrive at nursery. However, they are not all consistently challenged or engaged and do not make the best possible progress in their learning. Children learn some skills that prepare them for starting school. For example, older children are independent and have a go before asking staff for help, such as trying to put on their shoes. Babies and toddlers are curious, and explore the range of available toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435725
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1115681
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	0 - 8
Total number of places	75
Number of children on roll	156
Name of registered person	Claire Elizabeth Symons
Registered person unique reference number	RP511844
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2014
Telephone number	01271 346529

Claires Little Robins registered in 2011 and is one of four privately owned nurseries. The nursery operates from the residential area of Northam, in North Devon. It is open each weekday from 6am to 7pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of 20 staff works with the children. Of these, 17 hold relevant qualifications between level 2 and level 4, and one holds an early years degree. The setting also employs a cook and an administrator.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

