

# Seahorses Day Nursery

Winterleys House, Albert Road, London, NW6 5DR



## Inspection date

11 October 2017

Previous inspection date

13 November 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

- Leadership and management is weak. Leaders fail to provide staff with the support, training and guidance they need to develop their teaching skills. They do not accurately monitor the effectiveness of the provision, identify weaknesses in practice or breaches of the statutory requirements.
- The provider has not fully risk assessed or addressed the hazards which are present in the garden. This does not ensure children's safety.
- Staff who prepare and handle food do not hold a relevant food hygiene training certificate. This compromises children's good health.
- Staff demonstrate a poor understanding of the learning and development requirements. This means they are unable to support children's learning effectively.
- Monitoring, observation, planning and assessment systems are ineffective. Leaders and staff fail to identify and close gaps in children's learning. Children do not make the best possible start in their development.
- Staff do not teach well. They lack a clear understanding of the importance of supporting all children's communication and language development as they play.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff help children to develop their self-care skills and improve their independence. For example, children serve themselves at lunchtime and are able to use appropriate sized cutlery.

## 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 risk assessment for the outdoor play area to fully consider the hazards and take appropriate action to eliminate these risks to children's safety	10/11/2017
■ ensure staff involved in the preparation and handling of food have training in food hygiene	10/11/2017
■ improve the arrangements for the monitoring and supervision of staff to ensure leaders and managers are able to identify and address areas of practice that need improvement.	10/11/2017

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

	Due Date
■ improve staff's knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements, in particular the prime and specific areas of learning	22/11/2017
■ improve staff's understanding of how to provide effective teaching and support children's communication and language development effectively	22/11/2017
■ improve the systems to assess and monitor children's learning and use this information to plan activities that meet the individual development needs of each child so that all children to make good progress.	22/11/2017

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector spent the majority of time observing children in the play room, garden and a visit to the local park.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's records and staff suitability checks.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, manager and staff.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to a sample of parents.

## **Inspector**

Jennifer Devine

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The provider has not fully assessed or addressed hazards in the garden area. Rubbish, which may hit children or staff, is sometimes thrown from the flats above into the nursery's outside area. Appropriate action has not been taken and the garden is still used by children. The provider does not ensure that staff who prepare and handle food have appropriate food hygiene training. These breaches of the statutory requirements compromise children's safety and welfare. Managers lack a clear awareness of how to monitor staff and bring about the necessary changes to practice. Supervision arrangements are ineffective. This means that staff do not receive the right support to help them raise the quality of their teaching to a good level. There are suitable recruitment and vetting procedures to check staff suitability. Staff have a suitable understanding of the child protection procedures to follow if they have any concerns for a child's welfare.

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

Staff do not have a basic knowledge of the prime and specific areas of learning. They do not understand how children learn and the quality of teaching is poor. Staff set up the playroom with a suitable selection of activities. However, staff do not promote children's language development effectively by providing good quality interactions during activities. For example, staff do not support children to develop their speaking skills and widen their vocabulary when playing with dough. This is particularly important for quieter children and children with English as an additional language. Staff make some attempts at observations and assessments of children's development. The information gathered is insufficient and inaccurate. This means staff do not plan effectively to meet each child's individual needs.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The weaknesses in leadership and management compromise children's overall welfare. Furthermore, ineffective teaching means children do not make good progress. Staff do not ensure the outdoor play area is safe, well-resourced and motivating to encourage positive outdoor learning experiences for children. Although there is a key-person system in place it is not used effectively to meet each child's needs. For example, staff lack basic knowledge of their key children's ages and stages of development to inform their planning. Overall children behave well. They are beginning to show consideration for others as they share the toys. Staff are welcoming to parents and children arrive happily. Parents comment that they are happy with the children's care.

### Outcomes for children are inadequate

Not all children make sufficient progress due to weaknesses in teaching and assessment arrangements. Children who are learning English as an additional language do not receive the support they need to become confident speakers and build their vocabulary. Children join in at circle time and are beginning to show interest in singing. However staff do not

build on children's interests. Furthermore, staff plan unrealistic and inappropriate learning targets. For example, they plan to teach children to read or develop their mathematical skills, when they have not yet mastered the more basic skills they need for the next steps in their learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY465629
<b>Local authority</b>	Brent
<b>Inspection number</b>	1101746
<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, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	25
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	11
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Seahorses Bek Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP910938
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 November 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	0207 6243373

Seahorses Day Nursery registered in 2013 and operates from a community hall in Kilburn, in the London Borough of Brent. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm all year round, except Christmas and bank holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs five staff who hold relevant early years qualifications.

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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/](http://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](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://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](http://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](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2017

