

Marsh Bears Nursery

Marsh Farm Futures, Futures House, Luton, LU3 3QB



Inspection date	4 January 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Children's welfare is put at significant risk because there are weaknesses in management's safeguarding and child protection knowledge. As a result they do not consistently follow procedures for reporting and sharing any concerns about children's safety and welfare with the local social services.
- Staff supervision meetings are not used effectively to set clear targets for improvement to support staff to improve the quality of teaching and outcomes for children.
- Older children are not consistently offered challenging activities to extend and promote their learning and development.

It has the following strengths

- Children are provided with a gradual settling-in process that meet their individual needs. This helps children to grow in confidence and raise their self-esteem.
- Children have opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They enjoy riding on push-along bicycles and playing games outside. This helps to promote their physical development.

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"> ■ implement an effective policy and procedures, in line with the guidance of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, to ensure that an appropriate and prompt referral is made if safeguarding concerns arise about a child | 26/01/2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ put in place effective arrangements for the supervision of staff, which identify and provide appropriate support, coaching and training to improve the quality of teaching and promote the interests of children. | 26/01/2018 |

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

- | | Due Date |
|---|-----------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ provide older children with challenging and enjoyable experiences in all areas of learning. | 18/01/2018 |

Inspection activities

- 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 nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and owner. 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 their views.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Management has not consistently informed the local social services of concerns regarding the safety and welfare of children. This compromises children's welfare. Staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, but they do not ensure that their concerns are acted upon by management. They monitor children's progress and gaps in learning are identified and targeted support is provided. Staff share information about gaps in children's learning and assessments of their development with parents. However, the management team do not effectively evaluate practice to identify and address weaknesses in the provision. The provider recently notified Ofsted about an incident where staff did not follow policies and procedures to ensure children's dietary requirements were met. Staff have been retrained and a robust risk assessment has been undertaken to help prevent this happening again. A senior member of staff is now present at all times during meals and children with allergies are well supervised.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching for older children is variable which at times, has an impact on their progress. Staff do not effectively extend children's learning or provide sufficient challenges for older children. For example, when children are using blocks to build different objects, they are not encouraged to talk about what they are creating or to extend their mathematical understanding. However, children enjoy choosing activities and equipment that interests them. Staff provide some opportunities for children to develop their language and communication skills. For example, they repeat words back to children to reinforce their understanding and pronunciation. Staff read stories to children and ask them questions about what is happening and what may happen next. Children enjoy singing along to songs about their routine and joining in with their favourite rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The weaknesses in the leadership and management of the provision compromise children's safety and welfare. However, overall children behave well and learn to share and take turns through the consistent messages from staff. The staff promote good hygiene practices and children wash their hands after outdoor play and before eating. Children learn about healthy eating. For example, staff talk to them about the food they eat and they discuss what food is good for them. Children's independence is encouraged and they happily help to tidy away toys when they have finished playing with them before they choose another activity. Staff praise children, which helps to build on their self-esteem.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children make some progress in their learning. Staff help children who speak English as an additional language to communicate. For example, parents provide key words in children's home languages to support this. Children gain basic skills needed to help them prepare for their move on to school. They learn some self-help skills, such as putting on their own

coats. Children learn to recognise letters of the alphabet and enjoy opportunities to practise their early writing skills when writing letters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496935
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	1119712
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Monaza Malik
Registered person unique reference number	RP906676
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07468800786

Marsh Farm Bears registered in 2016. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, 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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