

Scribblez Day Nursery

10 Grace Road, Marsh Barton, Exeter, EX2 8PU



Inspection date

8 January 2018

Previous inspection date

12 March 2015

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		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

- The management team does not ensure that staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of the 'Prevent' duty guidance, including signs that may indicate that children are at risk of exposure to extreme views and behaviours. This puts children at significant risk.
- The management team does not ensure that all staff who are included in the adult-to-child ratios have a current paediatric first-aid certificate, which is a safeguarding and welfare requirement of the early years foundation stage.
- The management team does not implement a key-person system as required throughout the nursery to help ensure that staff meet children's individual needs effectively and build strong relationships with parents. The oldest children do not have an allocated special person.
- The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Not all staff are skilled in supporting children's early communication skills. There is a lack of purposeful adult interaction during routines and children's play for the youngest children.

It has the following strengths

- Children develop good independence and learn to manage tasks well for themselves. For example, babies use cups to drink from and older children confidently put on their own shoes.
- Children's behaviour is good. For instance, all children help to tidy up after playing. Staff create a calm atmosphere and encourage children to share and take turns successfully.

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 staff's knowledge of the 'Prevent' duty guidance, to help protect children from extremist views and behaviours	05/02/2018
■ ensure staff who have completed a level 2 and/or level 3 qualification and are included in the adult-to-child ratios have a current paediatric first-aid certificate	01/03/2018
■ ensure each child is assigned a key person to help meet children's needs and build relationships with parents effectively.	05/02/2018

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

- improve staff's knowledge and skills further, to support the youngest children's communication and language skills more consistently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in activities, indoors and outdoors, and talked to them at appropriate times.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager. The inspector met with the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection, to discuss how she monitors and supports staff.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Petra Morgan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The management team does not ensure staff understand critical information about safeguarding, such as the 'Prevent' duty guidance. Staff have a weak understanding of possible indicators that a child may be at risk of exposure to extreme ideas about right and wrong. This means staff may not recognise the need to report such concerns. Staff are aware, however, of the procedures to follow to report other safeguarding concerns. The management team has failed to ensure staff who are included in the adult-to-child ratios have a current paediatric first-aid certificate. This means that the management team is not meeting the required adult-to-child ratios consistently across the nursery. The management team implements action plans and demonstrates a commitment to improve. The manager monitors children's progress to help identify where they may need additional support and has good relationships with outside professionals to help support children's learning. She meets with staff to discuss their practice and offers professional development opportunities. For example, some staff are working towards gaining recognised childcare qualifications.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable across the nursery. This means not all children make the progress of which they are capable. For example, at times, the youngest children lack stimulation and staff leave babies waiting as they tidy up around them. Staff do not always talk to them to help develop their communication skills, such as during snack time. Staff in other rooms, however, read to toddlers which extends their understanding of new words, and older children chat confidently to staff and each other, developing good social skills. Staff undertake assessments of children's development and use these well to plan their next steps in learning. They understand their responsibility to complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years. Staff support older children to recognise the sounds that letters represent as children search for and match different objects to letter sounds. Toddlers learn about shapes, numbers and colours through a range of activities. Staff encourage children to adopt a healthy lifestyle successfully. For example, children benefit from nutritious snacks and grow vegetables to eat. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise as they play outdoors on bicycles and run after hoops. The nursery is well resourced.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The weaknesses in safeguarding knowledge and practice, an insufficient number of paediatric first-aid trained staff and unmaintained adult-to-child ratios compromise children's well-being. Staff do not ensure the older children have a key person as required, to help them settle when they move between rooms. Staff share information about children's progress with parents, which helps parents to support children's learning at home, such as ways to support older children's understanding of letters. Children have generally built secure relationships with staff who are kind and caring. Staff teach children about suitable hygiene routines, such as making sure they wash their hands before eating.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Variations in the quality of teaching have a negative impact on the younger children's learning. Staff do not consistently support the youngest children to develop good communication and language skills. However, older children gain the basic skills they need to move on to school. Overall, children are confident and happy. They enjoy making independent choices about their play, which helps them be motivated to learn. Children count and identify numerals. They develop good pencil control and their creative skills as they paint and make marks. Children learn how individual letter sounds, when put together, make words and recognise their name in print.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427734
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1094847
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Scribblez Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535396
Date of previous inspection	12 March 2015
Telephone number	01392 278 674

Scribblez Day Nursery registered in 2011. It operates from a converted building on the edge of Marsh Barton Industrial Estate, Exeter. The nursery opens each weekday from 7.45am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. It is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery follows a Montessori approach. The nursery employs 28 staff. The manager holds a level 7 qualification in childcare and is a qualified Montessori teacher. One member of staff holds qualified teacher status, three hold a qualification at level 4, 16 hold a qualification at level 3, two hold a qualification at level 2 and five are unqualified.

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