

Just Imagine Day Nursery - Canvey Island

1a Oak Road, Canvey Island, SS8 7AX



Inspection date

14 February 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 monitoring of the quality of the nursery, including staff performance, is not rigorous enough to ensure improvement.
- The quality of teaching is variable. Staff do not consistently provide experiences that are appropriate to individual children's age and stage of development. As a result, children do not always make good progress in their learning.
- Staff do not consistently encourage parents to share information about their children's development, to establish accurate starting points for learning. They do not consistently work with parents to help them continue supporting their children's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are caring and kind in their approach. Children have developed some close relationships with staff. This helps children to feel safe and secure in the nursery and supports their emotional well-being.
- The indoor and outdoor environment are stimulating and well resourced. Staff make good use of the outdoor space for learning and children particularly enjoy physical play and exploration.
- The provider has established robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff carry out daily risk assessments and checks to keep children safe.

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 there is a well-established programme of professional development to coach and support staff, to improve the quality of teaching	07/03/2018
■ provide children with appropriate levels of challenge in line with their current stage of development.	07/03/2018

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

- work even more closely with parents to encourage them to contribute ongoing information about their children's development and to help them in supporting their children's learning at home.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and regional manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Arrangements for professional development provide some support for staff. The manager monitors staff performance through working alongside staff and regular supervision meetings. However, defined targets for improvements to staff practice have not been established. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are aware of the designated person within the nursery. They have a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and how to report any concerns regarding a child's welfare. Procedures for staff recruitment, induction and ongoing suitability meet requirements. Feedback from parents is positive. They comment on a welcoming environment and describe staff as caring, friendly and approachable.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff do not consistently gather sufficient information from parents regarding children's starting points in order to fully support children's ongoing progress. Consequently, they do not always focus planned activities precisely so that any gaps in children's learning close rapidly. Teaching is variable and some activities do not always closely match children's stage of development or their abilities. Some activities that are led or supported by staff are not inspiring enough and do not encourage children to explore or investigate. In spite of these weaknesses, children enjoy their time at nursery and access a stimulating range of resources, covering all areas of learning. For example, toddlers competently use small tools and enjoying emptying and filling containers in the water tray. Babies gladly explore making marks with paint, supported by attentive staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children are not always successfully inspired or encouraged to make as much progress as they can. Staff do not consistently support parents with ideas and suggestions for ways to continue children's learning at home. Nevertheless, staff understand children's care needs and meet these well. Children receive a warm welcome at this friendly nursery. They develop positive attitudes towards managing their behaviour, as staff are effective role models. Staff provide children with nutritious snacks and ensure that they have plenty of opportunities to exercise and play outside. Children follow sensible hygiene routines and wash their hands after using the toilet. This helps to promote their good health.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. They are generally motivated to learn and develop some useful skills needed for the next stage in their learning. Most children at the nursery are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. Children are developing their independence. Babies are supported to feed themselves and older children are encouraged to put on their own coats ready for play outdoors. However, weaknesses in teaching mean that children do not make good progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY545732
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1100907
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Just Imagine Nurseries - Canvey Island Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP545731
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01268 410937

Just Imagine Day Nursery - Canvey Island registered in 2017. The nursery employs five members of staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am to 7pm.

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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