

The Little Day Nursery Ltd

Unit 18 St James Business Centre, Wilderspool Causeway, Warrington, WA4 6PS



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

19 March 2018

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		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 is weak. Monitoring is ineffective and weaknesses in practice have not been identified. There are breaches of legal requirements that impact on children's safety.
- Procedures for storing and administering medicines are not rigorous. Legally required records are not always kept.
- Risk assessment is not consistently robust. There are unidentified hazards within the nursery, staff do not always do enough to reduce hazards they know about.
- There are not always enough staff to consistently meet children's needs. Occasionally, the manager fails to ensure an accurate record of children and staff's attendance.
- The manager is not able to demonstrate that half the staff working with babies have received specific training in the care of babies.
- The manager does not implement effective supervision arrangements or coach staff effectively to develop individual skills and practice to help drive improvement.
- The key-person system does not consistently offer a settled relationship for every child or ensure every child's care and learning is tailored to meet individual needs.
- Assessments of what children already know and can do are not always accurate.
- The planning of activities does not take sufficient account of the next steps for each individual child's learning, including children who speak English as an additional language.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are friendly and caring. Once they are settled, children form some strong bonds with them. They develop confidence and their social skills develop well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ implement an effective procedure for storing and administering medicines, including obtaining prior written parental permission and keeping an accurate written record each time medicine is administered	19/04/2018
■ take all reasonable steps to ensure that staff and children are not exposed to risks, in particular, risks associated with trailing wires	19/04/2018
■ ensure that staffing arrangements meet the needs of all the children	19/04/2018
■ ensure that at least half of staff working with under two's have received training that specifically addresses the care of babies	19/04/2018
■ implement effective arrangements for the supervision of staff that includes support, coaching and training to help to drive improvement in practice	19/04/2018
■ ensure that there is an effective key-person system in place for all children, to promote a settled relationship for a child and ensures their care and learning is tailored to meet their individual needs	19/04/2018
■ ensure that assessments of children's abilities are accurate	19/04/2018
■ implement effective planning systems that help to shape activities in response to children's individual needs to help them make good progress	19/04/2018
■ ensure that the records of attendance are accurately maintained	19/04/2018

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

- improve the way that the quality of the provision for children is monitored to help identify weaknesses and drive improvements
- develop understanding of effective ways to meet the learning needs of children who speak English as an additional language.

Inspection activities

- Ofsted carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about the provision.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the provider and evaluated the effectiveness of risk assessment and the maintenance of the premises and equipment.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such evidence of the suitability, qualifications and training of staff.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents and staff and took account of their views. She held discussions with the provider, the manager and a representative from the local authority.

Inspector

Angela Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. Staff do not manage medicines safely, for example, an unlabelled item of medicine was found in a cupboard. Staff do not understand how to use the nursery's medicine recording systems. Occasionally, medicines have been administered to children without obtaining prior written parental permission. Risk assessment is not robust. Staff do not identify possible risks associated with trailing wires from electrical equipment, which is within children's reach. Staff are not always proactive to help them reduce the risk of illness or injury, for example, they do not take effective action when they notice babies repeatedly play with a rubbish-bin lid. The deployment of staff is weak. For example, when the manager's attention is taken with phone calls, one member of staff is left attempting to meet the needs of six babies. The manager is unable to demonstrate that at least half the staff who work with babies have received relevant training. The manager spends most of her time directly working with the babies. As a result, she has not effectively monitored the quality of provision throughout the nursery. She has failed to identify that the current system for assessing what children already know and can do and the progress they make, is not fully understood by all staff or able to be easily used. The manager is not robustly checking the accuracy of assessments to ensure that children's needs are appropriately planned for. Since the last visit to the nursery made by Ofsted, the manager has taken suitable action to address most of the identified weaknesses. The manager makes some improvements as a result of the advice and guidance she receives. She has planned to make changes to staff rotas to help improve consistency for children. Child protection procedures are clear and there are adequate procedures to check the suitability of staff who work with the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Staff do not precisely identify and plan for children's individual learning needs, particularly for children who speak English as an additional language. Ongoing assessments of what children already know and can do are not always accurate. As a result, the manager cannot be sure that children are making the expected progress in their learning. Staff do not plan precisely enough, to ensure that they can shape activities to give individual children the level of support or challenge they need to help them make good progress. Staff do not always model language clearly or ask effective questions to support children's understanding and speaking skills. Some staff do not sustain babies' attention in play. Staff plan some activities that children enjoy. They play with the children and they demonstrate how to complete tasks, which helps children achieve some new skills. They enhance the toys and resources available to children, which motivates them to join in and to explore.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in the leadership and management of the nursery mean that children's safety cannot be assured. The key-person system is not effectively used to offer individually tailored support to help each child settle quickly and to meet their unique needs. Once they are settled, children begin to develop confidence and explore their environment freely. They know what to expect because staff follow consistent routines. They learn

manners and good ways to behave because staff model these for them. Children enjoy the home-cooked meals provided and are encouraged to develop independence at mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

The weaknesses in teaching are hindering children's learning, and outcomes for children are poor. Children who speak English as an additional language do not always receive the support they need to help them settle, so they can swiftly catch up with the development of their communication and language skills. Despite developing some positive social skills, children are not always well prepared for their future learning, and eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497029
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	1132760
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	The Little Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535103
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07825236824

The Little Day Nursery Ltd registered in 2016. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at a minimum level 2, and half of the staff are qualified at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. 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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