

Sparklers Nursery

The Watling Centre, 145 Orange Hill Road, Edgeware, Middlesex, HA8 0TR



Inspection date	10 April 2018
Previous inspection date	15 September 2017

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

- The provider, who is also the manager, does not ensure staff have up-to-date safeguarding knowledge, including 'Prevent' duty guidance. This puts children at significant risk.
- The provider does not ensure there is a named deputy who can take charge in the absence of the manager.
- The provider does not ensure that staff-to-child ratios are maintained at all times.
- The provider fails to ensure that the environment, resources and play equipment are safe and suitable for children. In particular, toys are dirty and broken and do not offer suitable challenge to the children.
- The provider does not monitor staff practice well enough to ensure they provide children with a balance of adult-led and child-initiated play.
- Staff do not make the most of information gained from observations and assessments to monitor the progress children make. Children are not suitably challenged and do not make the progress of which they are capable. Children are not fully prepared for school.

It has the following strengths

- Children are well behaved. Staff help them to learn how to take turns and share.
- Staff are kind to the children and speak to them with respect.

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
■ ensure staff hold up-to-date safeguarding knowledge, including 'Prevent' duty guidance	04/05/2018
■ ensure there is a named deputy who is able to take charge in the manager's absence	04/05/2018
■ ensure that ratios are met at all times	04/05/2018
■ organise the premises and resources in a way that meets the needs of the children, and ensure that toys and equipment are clean and in a good state of repair	04/05/2018
■ monitor staff practice to ensure they provide children with a good balance of adult-led and child-initiated play	04/05/2018
■ make effective use of observations and assessments to identify where children are in their learning, and use this information to plan enjoyable, challenging experiences that build on each child's interests and help them to make good progress in all areas of learning.	04/05/2018

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff's interactions with children in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector talked to staff and children. The inspector held regular discussions with the manager.
- The inspector examined documentation, including a sample of children's and staff's records, including suitability checks for staff.
- The inspector talked to parents during the inspection to gather their views on the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Julie Biddle

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Staff do not have a robust understanding of their child protection responsibilities. The provider has failed to ensure that staff have an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of 'Prevent' duty guidance. However, staff do know how to identify and report some signs of possible abuse and neglect. The provider has failed to ensure that there are sufficient numbers of staff on site to meet ratios, especially at the start of the day. On some occasions, there is just one member of staff present to care for the children. The provider has also failed to ensure that there is a named deputy who can take charge when the manager is not present. These weaknesses significantly compromise the safety and welfare of the children. Self-evaluation is not effective enough to identify and address weakness in practice. The provider does not monitor staff's practice to ensure they provide a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities. Observations and assessments are not accurate and information is not used to monitor the progress that children make. As a result, planning is weak and activities do not meet the needs of the children attending. Staff do not support children or shape their learning experiences to help them make the progress of which they are capable. Although the majority of staff are qualified, they do not use their knowledge to raise the outcomes for children. In general, staff have a friendly partnership with parents and share details of their child's day with them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Children do not receive sufficient challenge and some demonstrate signs of being bored. They do not make adequate progress in their learning. Many of the planned activities are adult-led and staff do not encourage children to develop their own ideas. For example, during creative activities staff tell the children where to use the glue and paint. Staff do not provide children with a range of suitable resources. In the role-play area the equipment is dirty and sparse and does not represent the home life of the children or enable them to develop their imaginative skills. Staff do not build effectively on what children know and can do to extend their learning. However, they do provide some activities that children enjoy, such as singing familiar songs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in the leadership and the management of the setting, with particular regard to safeguarding, mean children's safety and well-being cannot be assured. For example, although children enjoy their time in the garden, many of the resources are dirty, broken and have sharp edges. However, staff help children to learn about good hygiene. For example, they encourage them to wash their hands before eating. Children are encouraged to drink water with their meals. Children behave well and staff manage behaviour consistently.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children do not make the progress of which they are capable. Poor observation and assessment of children's progress mean that they do not get the support they need to further their learning. Children do not gain the skills they need for their future learning

and school. Children communicate and enjoy talking about a favourite story, using puppets to act out parts of it that are familiar to them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY375063
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	1124712
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	First Meditation Enterprise Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906958
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2017
Telephone number	02089593434

Sparklers Nursery registered in 2006. The nursery is situated in the London Borough of Barnet. The nursery operates from 8am to 6pm, for 48 weeks of the year. The provider receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs eight members of staff, seven of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications from level 2 to level 4.

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