

# Spring - Seesaw

Lancaster Way, Braintree, Essex, CM7 5UL



## Inspection date

8 May 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- Staff fail to recognise and respond to potential safeguarding concerns. They do not make sufficient records of concerns or report them in line with their policy and the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures.
- Staff do not make effective use of the information gathered from tracking children's progress to help raise their attainment to an outstanding level.
- Supervision meetings are not consistently effective in supporting staff to make and sustain improvements to raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.

### It has the following strengths

- Parents are very positive about the nursery. They say that staff are friendly and welcoming. Parents say their children enjoy attending and make progress in their learning.
- The nursery staff work with a wide range of other support agencies to help children and their families. The partnership working for children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities is effective in providing children with continuity in their learning.
- Children enjoy learning through play. They benefit from improvements to the garden, where they actively engage in learning and physical experiences.

## 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:

	<b>Due Date</b>
■ train all staff to understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, and ensure they respond appropriately at the earliest opportunity to any concerns.	25/05/2018

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

- make effective use of the information gathered from tracking children's progress to help raise their attainment to an outstanding level
- extend the use of supervision meetings to help staff make and sustain improvements to the quality of teaching at a higher level.

### 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 two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the cluster manager. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed 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

Alison Reeves

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate**

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Staff do not follow the nursery policy and procedure for identifying and acting on potential child protection concerns. While staff recognise some possible signs that children are at risk of harm, they do not record their concerns and the designated senior persons do not take swift action to inform the necessary local services. Staff undergo appropriate checks to ensure they are suitable to work with children. They hold appropriate paediatric first-aid qualifications that help them to manage minor accidents. Staff keep parents well informed about nursery events and children's daily experiences. The manager tracks children's progress and identifies gaps in their learning.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

Children and staff are busy engaging in play. Staff use themed activities to support children's learning. When children are particularly interested in a topic staff extend the topic to give children the chance to continue their learning. Staff use a mix of teaching styles. They include opportunities for children to explore independently with balance scales and rice. Children follow instructions as they plant beans. Staff help children to make dough. The children show that they know the ingredients they need and how the dough should feel when it is finished. The youngest children explore resources freely. They select the experiences that interest them. Enthusiastic singing sessions provide the children with good opportunities to use their voices. Staff use communication assessment programmes to help identify children's level of communication and to help children make good progress with their speaking and listening skills.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate**

The weaknesses in leadership and management compromise children's welfare. Nevertheless, children behave well in nursery. They respond positively to the good role model that staff provide. Everyone uses 'please' and 'thank you' when talking to others. Children enjoy plenty of outdoor experiences. They have fun creating their own moves, using the long ribbons on sticks. Children show their good coordination as they hop, step and jump, playing a game of hopscotch. Children benefit from healthy and balanced meals. They are independent and capable. Children carefully carry their plates, cutlery and cups as they help to clear away the used items.

### **Outcomes for children are good**

Children make good progress in their learning from their individual starting points. Children benefit from the detailed planning for their move on to school. They have lots of support to help them develop the confidence they need to tackle the challenges of the next stage in their learning. Children become confident communicators. They are happy to express their thoughts and ideas. Children develop their interest in learning to write their names. They identify letters and sounds, and attempt to write recognisable letters on their work. Children count confidently and know their colours and shapes.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY539461
<b>Local authority</b>	Essex
<b>Inspection number</b>	1072186
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	54
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	120
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Action For Children Developments Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP539433
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01376 555260

Spring Lancaster Way registered in 2016. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery receives early education funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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