

Little Pumpkins Nursery Ltd

88 Woodyates Road, London, SE12 9JH



Inspection date 16 May 2018
Previous inspection date 24 April 2013

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Inadequate | 4 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
| 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

- Risk assessment is not effective. The provider does not take all reasonable steps to ensure that equipment is risk assessed well enough to ensure children's health and safety needs are met, which places children at risk.
- Although staff have completed behaviour management training, the manager does not ensure that enough is done to encourage staff to manage children's behaviour more appropriately. Staff do not teach the basics well enough to help all children develop their personal, social and emotional skills in readiness for their next stage in learning.
- The manager does not provide sufficient support to help staff improve their interaction and teaching skills and their ability to further aid children's learning and development.
- Although staff know individual children's learning needs, they have not fully developed how they use this knowledge to plan suitable activities. As a result, some children's progress is slower than it could be. Staff encourage children to explore resources, but they spend little time extending their play, such as by asking challenging questions and re-shaping activities to meet their needs.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy healthy, well-balanced and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs.
- The manager and staff communicate clearly and build secure partnerships with parents.
- Staff understand the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare.

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 |
|---|-----------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that all aspects of the premises are risk assessed adequately and that steps are taken promptly to reduce risks to children's safety, health and well-being | 16/05/2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve staff knowledge of how to support children's behaviour and self-esteem, and ensure all strategies are effectively and consistently implemented | 16/05/2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve the way staff practice is monitored, to help develop professional development opportunities and support children's learning appropriately | 16/05/2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ raise the quality of teaching so that all staff use what they know about children to plan clear next steps for their development, and provide high-quality learning experiences which are based on children's individual needs and interests. | 16/05/2018 |

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 of an activity with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their written views.

Inspector
Marvet Gayle

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. The provider does not take appropriate action to minimise safety risks identified and fails to meet health and safety requirements. For example, they did not ensure that play equipment in the garden was safe for children to use and maintained to a good level. This compromises children's safety. Recent changes in staff mean that some staff are not yet confident in how they can support children's learning through their interactions. Although the manager generally supports staff's professional development, she does not check and monitor the quality of their practice and the provision sufficiently to ensure it supports children's learning and developmental needs effectively. Staff are well deployed and ensure children are supervised appropriately. Staff understand the processes to follow if they have any child protection concerns. The provider follows appropriate recruitment processes, to ensure staff are suitable. Parents are satisfied with the level of staff's communication about their children's care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Children make some progress in their learning and development, but staff do not consistently plan effectively to challenge children in their learning and help them make as much progress as possible. The quality of teaching is variable. At times, staff do not interact with children appropriately to ensure they are engaged well in learning. While some staff try to encourage children to join in activities, this is not always successful. Staff working with babies are able to captivate their interest through their use of language and by introducing songs and relevant props. In these instances, teaching is much more successful.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff do not appropriately support children to share and take turns. For example, as children play in the sand, staff do not give clear guidance or model positive behaviour to help them understand the expectations. Staff do not do enough to encourage children's personal, social and emotional development and build their confidence. Staff meet children's dietary needs well. They share information with parents each day, including the daily menu. Staff provide opportunities for children to be physically active and develop healthy lifestyles. They supervise children appropriately and record any accidents or incidents. However, managers do not check to see if there are any trends in the type of accidents that occur to consider how to reduce risks where possible, to promote the safety of children.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Although children make some progress in their learning and development, they do not consistently achieve to their full potential due to weaknesses in the quality of teaching. Even so, babies show curiosity as they explore natural resources. Children develop some of the skills required to prepare them for school and their future learning. They learn about shapes and develop the dexterity needed to use scissors. Older children learn to write their name.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY316353 |
| Local authority | Lewisham |
| Inspection number | 1136003 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| Age range of children | 0 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 41 |
| Number of children on roll | 42 |
| Name of registered person | Little Pumpkins Nursery Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP525220 |
| Date of previous inspection | 24 April 2013 |
| Telephone number | 02088512400 |

Little Pumpkins Nursery Ltd registered in 2006. The nursery operates from a converted semi-detached house in Lee, in the London Borough of Lewisham. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.45am to 6.15pm for 51 weeks of the year. There are 13 members of staff, including the manager. The manager and five staff hold childcare qualifications at level 3, four staff are qualified at level 2 and three are unqualified.

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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