

# Safehands Nursery @ The Guild Hall

Preston Guild Hall Ltd, Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 1HT



## Inspection date

22 May 2018

Previous inspection date

1 September 2016

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 manager has not ensured that sufficient staff are on duty to maintain the required adult-to-child ratios. This puts children's safety at risk and limits staff's ability to meet children's emotional needs effectively. In addition, extra staff, when they arrive, do not know babies and consequently, babies remain unsettled for most of the day.
- The manager cannot demonstrate she has investigated and addressed complaints received by parents as records are not available for scrutiny.
- Staff do not maintain adequate hygiene standards in areas where formula milk is prepared for babies.
- Children are not sufficiently challenged in their learning and become boisterous. Activities are not well planned and teaching is too weak to help children to make progress. In addition, staff struggle to manage children's behaviour.

### It has the following strengths

- Parents make positive comments about the nursery and say their children enjoy themselves and have good relationships with staff. Parents are kept well informed and helped to continue their children's learning at home.
- Processes for recruiting and inducting new staff are effective. The manager monitors staff performance to identify training needs for individual staff.

## 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 sufficient staff are on duty to maintain the required adult-to-child ratios	30/06/2018
■ ensure staff are deployed effectively, so that children's emotional needs are met by familiar adults who know them well	30/06/2018
■ ensure records are available to show how concerns or complaints received have been investigated and addressed	30/06/2018
■ ensure areas for preparing formula milk are kept in a clean and hygienic condition	30/06/2018
■ improve teaching and provide all children with access to well planned activities designed to challenge their thinking and help them to make good progress in all areas of learning	30/06/2018
■ ensure staff have sufficient knowledge, understanding and skills to positively manage children's behaviour.	30/06/2018

## 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 had a tour of the premises and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager, the area manager and the operations manager. She 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 views.

## Inspector

Val Aspinall

## Inspection findings

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

Safeguarding is ineffective. Despite being qualified and experienced the manager has not ensured that she or her team meet requirements. There are insufficient staff on duty to meet children's emotional and learning needs or to manage children's boisterous behaviour. Children, especially babies, are not familiar with the staff who arrive later to cover staff absence. Babies remain fretful and unsettled for much of the day. In addition, records are not available to show how the manager has addressed concerns raised by parents. Some aspects of leadership are better. The manager is quick to acknowledge the weaknesses identified and explains how she will improve practice. Procedures in place to monitor environmental risks, accidents and administering medication to children are effective. Equally, the processes for monitoring and comparing the progress of children are thorough. Staff have a sound understanding of child protection. They know the signs that suggest a child's welfare may be at risk and know who to refer their concerns to. The manager has established effective partnerships with other agencies to provide additional support to children and their families.

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

Teaching and the organisation of activities is too weak to enthuse or engage children in learning. Consequently, most children wander about aimlessly or behave boisterously. Pre-school children are not helped to concentrate or to develop thinking skills. Children have access to interesting resources, such as dry rice, scoops and buckets or a tray of sugar to make marks in. However, lack of appropriate supervision means they throw the rice or lick the sugar. Staff who arrive to cover absences are better teachers. Pre-school children delight in a game of 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' they count their steps as they get closer to the 'wolf' and enthusiastically take turns to be the 'wolf'. Cover staff in the baby room support babies' communication using gesture and signing or sing nursery rhymes. While staff do observe what children can do and provide regular summaries for parents, they do not use what they know to plan sufficiently challenging activities to help children achieve their next steps in learning.

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

Children resort to boisterous behaviour as a consequence of not having interesting and challenging activities planned for them. Children climb on work surfaces or over furniture and gates, run around indoors and use resources inappropriately. While the manager has tried to implement positive strategies to support children's behaviour these are not yet effective. In addition, babies' emotional needs are not met well enough. Cover staff try to comfort and nurture babies, however, most remain unsettled without the attention from their familiar key person. In addition, the area for preparing babies' bottles is cluttered and unhygienic. Children do enjoy healthy, well-balanced meals and have opportunities to play outdoors. Cover staff encourage pre-school children to balance, jump and to throw and catch balls. Specialist coaches provide regular sessions to teach children football skills.

### **Outcomes for children are inadequate**

Despite the lack of sufficient challenge in their learning, children are confident, can communicate and are keen to engage with visitors. For example, they enjoy pressing the keys on a visitor's laptop. With encouragement, children try to write their name, roll play dough or pretend to be a vet. However, they do not make enough progress and are not supported well enough to develop all of the skills they will require to prepare them in readiness for their eventual move on to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY490566
<b>Local authority</b>	Lancashire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1136262
<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>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	61
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	45
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Safehands Nurseries Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP903370
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 September 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	01772 804100

Safehands Nursery @ The Guild Hall registered in 2015. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one staff member who holds a qualification at level 4. The nursery opens from 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.

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