

Spring Milecross

Norman Community Centre, Bignold Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 2QZ



Inspection date

19 July 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The monitoring of staff's practice is not sufficiently thorough. The management team fails to make sure that all staff maintain a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in meeting children's care needs.
- On occasion, staff do not make parents fully aware of injuries sustained by their children, within a reasonable time, to ensure children experience good continuity of care.

It has the following strengths

- Staff make effective use of observation and assessments to plan activities that meet children's learning needs securely. Children make consistently good progress from their starting points.
- There are good opportunities for children develop their independence and skills in self-care. For instance, babies are provided with slippers with suitable fastenings which they make positive attempts to manage for themselves.
- Children's communication and language skills are fostered well. For example, staff explain children's actions as they play and ask them questions that prompt them to talk in more detail about their imaginative ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ establish effective arrangements for the monitoring and supervision of staff to ensure they are supported to maintain a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities	24/08/2018
■ inform parents of any injury sustained by their child on the same day or at the earliest practical opportunity after the injury.	20/07/2018

Inspection activities

- The inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received by Ofsted about the provision.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and cluster manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Sarah Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The management team does not monitor practice closely enough to help them to identify weaknesses in some staff's understanding of their role and responsibilities. This inspection was undertaken after the provider notified Ofsted of a significant event at the nursery. A child was left unsupervised in a high chair while the staff and other children left the premises during a planned evacuation drill. A member of staff was quick to notice that the child was missing and took swift action to locate the child. The management team has improved the guidance given to staff about the evacuation procedures and stringent checks are carried out to ensure staff are fully aware of the number of children present in each room. Staff have regular safeguarding training and can identify the possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm. They quickly report any concerns to help to ensure children are well protected. Safeguarding is effective. There is an appropriate procedure for handling complaints and parents are inspired to add their views to the nursery's 'feedback tree' display.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff purposefully seek guidance from outside professionals to help them to enhance children's learning and development experiences. They provide tailored support so children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are challenged and motivated to move forward in their learning. Staff engage children in rich conversations about filling and emptying buckets with varying amounts of sand. This helps to extend children's mathematical skills effectively. Babies benefit from a stimulating environment. For example, their curiosity is captured by a selection of plastic bottles filled with an array of interesting materials. Staff actively demonstrate how to shake the bottles which helps to stimulate babies' senses and supports their large-muscle movements further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Overall, staff share positive relationships with children and their parents. However, on occasion, staff are slow to pass on accurate information to parents about their child's care needs, particularly in relation to suspected injuries. This compromises children's continuity of care. Children are offered good levels of direct support and encouragement from their key person which helps them to feel settled. Staff encourage children to help each other to put on dressing-up clothes and offer plenty of praise to reinforce children's kind and caring actions. Children are encouraged to adopt aspects of a healthy lifestyle. They benefit from a nutritious array of snacks and meals which are planned and prepared carefully to reflect their individual dietary needs, preferences and parental wishes.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of early years pupil premium funding, make good progress from their starting points. They are articulate, creative and develop a wide range of skills to prepare them well for the next stage in their learning and school. Children who speak English as an additional language show that they understand spoken English well and confidently join in with the words and actions to familiar songs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY550381
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1141501
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	142
Name of registered person	Action For Children Developments Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP539433
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01603 213294

Spring Milecross registered in 2017. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery manager holds Early Years Professional status. The nursery operates Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am 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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