

The Wendy House Day Nursery

Chapel Lane, Wythall, BIRMINGHAM B47 6JX



Inspection date	1 August 2018
Previous inspection date	21 March 2014

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

The provision is inadequate

- The leadership and management of the nursery are weak. They have failed to identify weaknesses in practice. There has been a significant decline in the quality of the provision since the last inspection.
- Staff are not appropriately deployed to ensure children's needs are met. Risk assessments are not robust enough to ensure children are kept safe.
- Leaders and managers do not provide enough support to ensure staff improve their skills and knowledge.
- The key-person system is ineffective. Although some children have a named key-person, there are occasions when their care and learning are not tailored to meet their individual needs. Children fail to thrive.
- Information from observation and assessment is not accurate or used well enough to ensure children make good progress. Staff do not provide a suitable balance of activities led by children and activities guided by adults.
- Leaders do not ensure all rooms are adequately resourced. Young children do not have enough opportunities to explore and develop their own ideas.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are caring and kind. Children are generally happy and behave well. They respond well to requests made of them. Staff praise their good behaviour and this builds their confidence and self-esteem.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due date
ensure that staff are deployed effectively to provide adequate supervision to meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety	14/08/2018
improve risk assessments to ensure children are kept safe	14/08/2018
ensure effective supervision of staff and provide support, coaching and training to raise the quality of teaching to at least a good level	14/08/2018
implement an effective key-person system for all children to meet their individual needs	14/08/2018
use the information gained from observations to plan activities and shape learning experiences that support and challenge children to make good progress	14/08/2018
improve the quality of assessments of children's development and ensure that the information gathered gives a clear overview of their individual progress	14/08/2018
implement planned purposeful play through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities	14/08/2018
provide more resources for younger children to ignite their curiosity and thirst for learning.	14/08/2018

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the nursery used for childcare.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation available, including suitability of staff working at the nursery, and discussed the process for self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to staff and observed their interactions with children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views through conversations and various documentation.

Inspector
Tina Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Staff do not adequately supervise children to keep them safe. Although ratios are maintained, staff deployment is ineffective. On occasions, staff are not aware of children's whereabouts or what they are doing. During outdoor play, staff manage large groups of children and are unaware of potential hazards. For example, children excitedly push around a large wheeled wagon, oblivious to the fact that a child is standing in front of it. Recently, leaders introduced a staff deployment document to ensure children are appropriately supervised when playing in the garden. It was introduced because children have received injuries that staff could not explain as they did not witness the accident. Although staff complete the document, their supervision is poor and it remains a weakness at the nursery. That said, staff demonstrate an awareness of the potential signs that a child is at risk from harm or neglect. They understand the local procedures for raising a concern about the welfare of a child. An online system is used to track the progress children make. However, information gained from assessments is inconsistent and not accurate. Staff attend mandatory training and some ongoing training. That said, they do not benefit from enough support and training to ensure they successfully fulfil their roles and their practice continually improves. Self-evaluation processes are poor. Some weaknesses have been identified but actions taken to tackle them have been insufficient.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Staff do not support children's learning and development effectively. Staff sit alongside children but they do not interact effectively with them to enhance their learning. Staff plan play around children's current interests. However, observations and assessments are not regularly completed and do not always reflect children's abilities. Staff do not focus their teaching on what individual children need to learn next or support them to extend their learning through their play. Nevertheless, staff do provide some activities that children enjoy. Children are engaged and focused as they fill and empty different-sized containers with sand and water. They explore flour and use their fingers to make marks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in safeguarding practice mean children's safety and welfare are not promoted. Staff are not tuned into children's whereabouts and on occasions children play in unhygienic surroundings, such as the toilets, where they use a booster step as a desk and a selection of pens and paper to make marks. The premises are secure and staff conduct some daily visual checks to ensure resources are safe and fit for purpose. However, risk assessments are not robust enough to ensure children's safety at all times. Although the nursery is generally well resourced, younger children are not provided with enough age-appropriate play activities to support their curiosity and creativity. Children are allocated a key person when they start at the nursery and introduced to their new key person when they change rooms. However, in practice, the system is not working well enough. On occasions, children who are new to a room do not have the opportunity to build strong relationships with their new key person. This is because key persons are not always deployed effectively and do not consistently work in the same room on the day their key child attends. Children have lots of opportunities to play outside in the

fresh air. They enjoy running, climbing and riding on wheeled toys. However, children are not adequately supervised to ensure their safety. Staff are not deployed effectively and do not notice when children fall over or use equipment inappropriately.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Not enough children are working within the range of development that is typical for their age. They are not sufficiently prepared in readiness for school. Staff do not provide them with appropriate activities to meet their individual learning needs. Children develop some physical skills through activities, such as riding on wheeled toys and playing ball games. Young children listen and follow instructions. Older children develop some literacy skills. They learn to recognise the letters that form their names. Children develop dexterity as they use small tools, such as small hammers and chinks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY362027
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10056906
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	108
Number of children on roll	216
Name of registered person	The Wendy House Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907032
Date of previous inspection	21 March 2014
Telephone number	01212705020

The Wendy House Day Nursery registered in 2007. The nursery employs 52 members of childcare staff. Of these, 33 hold early years qualifications to at least level 3, including 11 at level 6. The nursery opens 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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