

Little Toes Day Nursery

126 Greythorn Drive, West Bridgford, NOTTINGHAM NG2 7GA



Inspection date	31 July 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Not applicable	4
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is inadequate

- Risk assessments are not implemented effectively to identify and address safety issues. There are hazardous items in both garden areas and, at times, the baby room is extremely hot.
- The manager does not undertake appropriate suitability checks on staff or maintain appropriate records to evidence that this has been completed.
- Staff do not have a suitable understanding of child protection issues. There are gaps in their knowledge and understanding. For example, they do not know how to recognise abuse or neglect or other wider safeguarding issues, and they do not know what to do if they have concerns about a colleague.
- Staff do not always understand their roles and responsibilities. The manager does not evaluate the quality of teaching well enough to identify where staff need to improve their practice.
- Staff do not consistently make appropriate use of assessment information to establish what children need to learn next and how this will be planned for.
- Teaching is variable. Staff do not consistently promote children's learning to ensure that they make at least good progress.

It has the following strengths

- Staff share information with parents and carers about their children's care and learning. Parents and carers express that they feel they are suitably informed.
- Children behave well. They show respect for others and the environment. They understand the expectations of staff. For example, they know they must sit at the table to eat.

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 all staff understand their roles and responsibilities, and support them to undertake appropriate training and professional development opportunities, so that they offer quality learning and development experiences for children that continually improve	01/09/2018
improve how assessment information is used to identify clearly what children need to learn next and plan appropriate activities and support	30/09/2018
improve teaching and ensure that adults guide children's development consistently to help them to make good or better progress in their learning	30/09/2018
minimise risks to children and identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, and when and by whom those aspects will be checked	01/09/2018
carry out and maintain records of vetting processes to establish the suitability of staff working in the nursery	01/09/2018
ensure that all staff understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, and have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues	01/09/2018

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out as a result of the risk assessment process, following information received about the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. She discussed the procedures for evaluation and the priorities for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Justine Ellaway

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. The manager does not ensure that risk assessments are consistently undertaken to check that the premises are safe and suitable for children. Staff do not recognise when something might be posing a risk to children and therefore do not take steps to address it. For example, there are broken toys, resources and wood with exposed sharp edges in the large garden and small stones in the small garden area, which younger children pick up, and which pose a potential choking hazard. The baby room is at times exposed to direct sunlight, which means that the room and flooring become extremely hot. Staff are not vigilant enough to ensure the children are not exposed to this and to ensure they can play safely in a more comfortable temperature. Although staff have, or are in the process of applying for, a Disclosure and Barring Service check, the manager does not carry out other vetting processes for all staff, such as references. Furthermore, she cannot consistently provide evidence of the checks she has carried out. Staff are not supported to develop an understanding of child protection issues to ensure they can recognise and manage concerns about children. The monitoring of teaching practice is not good enough, and it does not identify all of the weaknesses in practice. This means the action plan for staff development does not focus sufficiently on improving the quality of teaching and learning. However, the manager who is the designated safeguarding lead has a suitable understanding of what to do if there is an allegation against a member of staff. Accident records contain appropriate information.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Although staff observe and assess children's learning, they do not consistently identify what each child needs to learn next to help them to move forward quickly in their learning. Staff interaction during play and activities is not consistent in promoting children's learning. For example, staff do not give children who are learning to stand and walk enough opportunities to try to do this. Staff are sometimes quiet during play and do not consistently encourage children to speak and develop their vocabulary. Staff do provide some effective support for learning. For example, as children play different games in the pre-school room, a member of staff effectively explains how to play these games and then models the first turn so that they understand what to do. Staff encourage younger children to reach for blocks and place them on the top of a tower. Staff provide a suitable range of age-appropriate toys and resources.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff do not implement the nursery's policies and procedures effectively to ensure children's safety and well-being. However, children who are new to the nursery receive appropriate support to help them to settle and feel comfortable. Staff discuss children's routines with parents and carers so that they can make any necessary adjustments, for example, changes to their sleep routines during the day that benefit them during the night. Parents and carers comment that they appreciate that staff listen to them and take this on board. Staff consistently model sharing and taking turns, to help children to develop their social skills. Staff talk to children about why certain things might be unsafe.

Outcomes for children require improvement

The weaknesses in teaching and the use of assessment information mean that children are not consistently supported to make good or better progress. However, children enjoy listening to stories. They recognise familiar songs and join in with the actions. They are developing some of the skills they need in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY547646
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10056927
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Little Toes Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP547645
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01159141589

Little Toes Day Nursery registered in 2017. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 6, four staff hold a qualification at level 3 and one staff member holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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