Hobby Horse Day Nursery



17 BRANSON COURT, PLYMPTON, PLYMOUTH, DEVON PL7 2WU

Inspection date	19 November 2018
Previous inspection date	21 November 2017

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Staff do not make good use of their assessments and the activities to support all children's communication and language skills well. As a result, some children do not make sufficient progress in this area.
- Staff do not adapt some group activities effectively to include and involve all younger children well. At such times, these children lose interest and do not benefit from the activities.
- Staff do not involve parents consistently in their children's learning to track and support children's progress accurately from the start.
- The management team does not monitor or evaluate the quality of the provision effectively to identify and address the weaknesses in the provision.

It has the following strengths

- Children behave well. Staff help older children to understand the impact of their behaviour and help them to consider the feelings of others, such as using pictures and puppets to explore emotions.
- Children benefit from key persons who meet their care routines consistently and form trusting relationships to help them feel secure.
- The management team ensures staff are suitable to work with children and maintains the required qualification and adult-to-child ratios. The management team deploys staff effectively to help keep children safe, and keeps records of all children's attendance.

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
improve the use of assessments and activities, to help all children make good progress in their communication and language development.	19/12/2018

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- improve the organisation of group activities to maintain all children's interest and involvement
- develop the partnerships with parents to track and support children's learning effectively from the start
- develop self-evaluation to identify and address all areas for improvement in the quality of the provision, and to improve outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the playrooms and outdoor play area.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation, and talked to children at appropriate times.
- The inspector assessed the suitability of staff and discussed the management team's knowledge and understanding of the early years foundation stage.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector discussed the effectiveness of an activity with the manager.

Inspector

Bridget Copson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The management team does not monitor or evaluate the quality of the provision successfully. As a result, the team does not identify weaknesses, including the gaps in children's communication and language development, and younger children's involvement in activities. Staff undertake professional development which they use to address the weaknesses raised at the last inspection. For example, staff help older children and boys to identify sounds and letters to support their literacy skills. Staff create enjoyable activities for children to learn about numbers and shape. The management team continues to work with other professionals to monitor and develop staff teaching skills. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a secure understanding of the risks to children and the procedures to follow if they have any concerns. They provide parents with information about the nursery provision, and gain consent for all aspects of care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff observe children in play and identify their next steps for learning. However, staff do not use what they know about children and the activities they provide, to help all children to make good progress in their communication and language development. For example, they do not respond to some younger children's sounds and gestures, and do not encourage all older children to talk. For other children, staff provide activities to support their listening skills, such as story times. Staff encourage children to count, learn about shapes, and extend challenges for some older children, such as helping them to calculate quantities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff provide a variety of activities for children to explore as well as planned activities. However, staff do not adapt some group activities consistently to meet children's developmental needs. At such times, when challenges are too great or these children are not supported, they lose interest. Staff maintain safe and secure environments for children and help them to learn about managing risks. For example, they teach children how to climb up and down the stairs safely as they move around the setting, and older children help complete risk assessments. Staff support children's health and physical development well. For example, they manage accidents appropriately, provide healthy meals and regular outdoor play, and keep parents informed of children's daily care routines. However, staff do not work effectively with all parents to assess and support children's learning accurately from the start.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Although most children make typical progress for their age, not all children make sufficient progress in their communication and language development, and have less opportunity to develop these skills. Overall, most children gain some of the skills they need for their future learning. Babies learn to walk and explore safely. Children of all ages learn to manage tasks for themselves to build their independence and confidence. Toddlers and pre-school children develop an interest in stories, and older children learn to recognise their names.

Setting details

Unique reference numberEY223229Local authorityPlymouthInspection number10079531Type of provisionFull day care

Registers Early Years Register

Day care typeChildcare on non-domestic premises

Age range of children 1 - 4

Total number of places 42

Number of children on roll 29

Name of registered person Hobby Horse Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP906309

Date of previous inspection 21 November 2017

Telephone number 01752 202193

Hobby Horse Day Nursery registered in 2002. It is located in Plympton, Plymouth, Devon. The nursery is open for 52 weeks of the year from 8am to 6pm. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs seven members of staff, of whom six hold early years qualifications at levels 6 or 2.

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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