

# Larkhill Church Day Nursery



Larkhill Christian Centre, Larkhill Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 3HW

<b>Inspection date</b>	26 November 2018
Previous inspection date	5 August 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

### This provision is inadequate

- The management team does not implement the safeguarding policies and procedures effectively. The manager, who is the designated lead for safeguarding, and the management team have failed to notify the appropriate agencies without delay when there have been concerns about a child's safety. This significantly compromises children's welfare.
- The management team has failed to notify Ofsted of the new nursery manager in a timely manner.
- Staff assess children ineffectively and do not support children's next steps in learning consistently. Staff do not take account of what children need to learn next when planning activities to motivate and challenge them well. Children do not make the progress of which they are capable.
- The management team does not implement high-quality supervisions with staff to support them effectively in developing their practice and improving the quality of teaching.
- Staff do not take reasonable steps to ensure they meet older children's needs consistently, such as by ensuring they are warm.
- The management team does not use self-evaluation well to identify and address breaches of requirements and weaknesses in practice.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff provide freshly prepared, healthy and nutritious meals, which children enjoy.
- Staff meet babies' and younger children's care needs well to help these children feel emotionally secure and confident to learn.

## 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
take action to notify agencies with statutory responsibilities in the event of concerns about a child's safety and welfare without delay	10/12/2018
improve the knowledge and understanding of the need to notify Ofsted promptly of any changes	10/12/2018
ensure that assessment is accurate, and that staff incorporate children's next steps in learning when planning activities, to help all children make the progress of which they are capable	10/12/2018
implement effective systems for the supervision of staff, providing support and coaching to improve the quality of teaching and enabling children to receive a high-quality learning experience consistently.	10/12/2018

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

- ensure staff meet older children's needs consistently, with particular regard to keeping children warm
- develop an effective self-evaluation process to identify fully and act on weaknesses in practice.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in activities, indoors and outdoors, and talked to them at appropriate times.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager. The inspector met with the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection, to discuss how she monitors and supports staff.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from their written comments.

**Inspector**  
Petra Morgan

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The manager does not have a secure knowledge of how to respond appropriately to concerns regarding children's welfare. The management team does not take swift action to notify the Local Safeguarding Children Board of potential child protection concerns. This lack of understanding compromises children's safety and well-being. Staff, however, do have an appropriate understanding of the child protection procedures and know what action to take if they have a concern about a child's welfare. The management team has failed to notify Ofsted, as required, that it has appointed a new manager. Systems to monitor the quality of the provision are weak. The management team has failed to notice where there are breaches in requirements and is unaware of the significant weaknesses. In addition, it does not monitor or support staff sufficiently enough to develop their practice or improve and strengthen the quality of teaching to a good level consistently across all rooms. However, staff do have some opportunities to attend training. The management team has satisfactory links with local schools.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable and is particularly weak for older children. Some assessments of older children's learning are inaccurate and misleading. For instance, staff assess some children as exceeding in particular areas of learning when the children are working at a level below their chronological age. Staff do not routinely use children's identified next steps for learning when planning activities. This impacts negatively on children's ability to make good progress. For example, children quickly lose interest in a small-group activity, which staff do not gear to individual children's level of development. Staff do not ensure all children feel included and children wander off during the activity. Furthermore, staff expect children to sit for too long before being able to make choices in their play. Older children become bored and staff do not effectively maintain their interest or motivate them to learn. Toddlers, however, concentrate well as they pour and fill containers with water. Babies enjoy cuddles and staff singing rhymes to them. Staff liaise with other professionals to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities appropriately.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The significant weaknesses in safeguarding do not support children's welfare. Staff do not fully consider children's needs. For example, several older children tell the staff that they are cold when sitting on the carpet for a group activity. However, staff do not respond positively or close the door to the outside. Staff teach children about suitable hygiene routines, such as making sure they wash their hands before eating. They work closely with parents to help them follow babies' and young children's home routines. Staff offer guidance to help parents support their children's development at home, such as through lending out 'learning bags'. Children have opportunities to develop their physical skills adequately. For instance, older children balance carefully on a circular balance beam and babies enjoy standing on their feet while staff support them carefully. Children generally behave well.

### Outcomes for children require improvement

Due to weaknesses in teaching and leadership, not all children are making good progress from their starting points. However, babies enjoy exploring jelly and toddlers confidently make marks on paper with pens and crayons. Older children develop some skills to prepare them for their move to school, such as recognising shapes and writing their names.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	143105
<b>Local authority</b>	Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	10060499
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	46
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	72
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP520159
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 August 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01935 424816

Larkhill Church Day Nursery registered in 1992. It operates from the Larkhill Christian Centre in Yeovil, Somerset. It is a Christian-based group. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm for 51 weeks of the year. It is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are 14 members of staff. Of these, one holds early years teacher status, two hold a qualification at level 5, one holds a qualification at level 4, seven hold a qualification at level 3, one holds a qualification at level 2 and two are unqualified.

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