

Chestnut Tree Nursery

Memorial Park Centre, Park Road, Colehill, Birmingham B46 3LA



Inspection date	30 January 2019
Previous inspection date	21 September 2018

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

This provision is inadequate

- Since the last inspection the manager has worked with the support of the local authority to take action about some of issues raised. However, at this time an effective system of supervision to provide support, coaching and training for all staff is not in place. The manager does not have a plan to develop staffs' professional knowledge and skills. As a result, teaching is inconsistent.
- The manager has implemented a safeguarding policy in line with the local procedures. However, this is not fully understood by all staff. As a result, concerns about children's well-being are not identified soon enough or immediate action taken.
- Not all records are maintained securely to ensure the confidentiality of information.

It has the following strengths

- Children's behaviour is generally good and they are learning to respect the views of others. They make important friendships amongst their peers and they are keen to introduce each other as 'friends' to visitors. Children confidently explain what they are doing and why. For example, children dress up as 'superheroes to look out for the baddies'. Simple rules help them to understand what is right and wrong.
- Staff are kind and give children regular praise, such as 'good listening'. They remind them about 'walking feet' and being careful. Staff respond quickly to children who may be distressed, providing reassurance. They know the children well and support their emotional well-being through close relationships.

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 have regard to local practice where they may have concerns about children's safety or welfare	15/02/2019
put in place appropriate arrangements for the supervision of all staff who have contact with children and families and focus on staffs' professional development to improve the quality of care and learning for all children	01/03/2019
ensure that confidential information about staff and children is held securely and only accessible to those who have a right to see them.	15/02/2019

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with children and staff and observed their interactions throughout the inspection. This included a trip to the park.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including records of progress, a sample of policies and evidence of suitability checks.
- The inspector viewed all areas used for childcare.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of practice at the nursery, with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents, the provider and held a meeting with the manager of the nursery.

Inspector

Yvonne Johnson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Since the last inspection, there has been a number of changes in the management of the nursery. Following the appointment of a temporary manager, a new permanent manager was recently appointed. However, support to the manager is limited as the provider has not attended the nursery, in person, for some time. That said, the manager is working with the local authority and has taken some action to raise the quality of childcare and learning. She has updated policies and procedures in line with local guidelines and staff are aware of the role of the designated officer in the local authority. They are aware of the processes and action to take should an allegation be made. Safeguarding is not effective. Although staff have an understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child may be at risk of harm, they do not have a thorough enough understanding of the reporting systems to the local authority. This means that in the event of a concern, they may not act swiftly enough and take immediate action. In addition, not all documentation is held securely. This means that children's welfare is compromised. The manager is implementing a new system to observe and assess the children's learning but this has not yet been fully embedded into practice. Staff do not receive regular supervision. There is a plan in place to introduce this but at this time the manager does not have a clear overview of staffs' strengths and professional development to ensure that the quality of care and learning improves rapidly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of the teaching is variable. Some teaching is strong and children enjoy walking around the large park. They dress in their 'warm' clothes, gloves and hats for the cold weather. They select shapes to carry to look for outside. As they walk, children are asked 'what can you see?' Children recognise a circle on a waste bin logo and triangles on the floor in the play area. They compare the shapes they hold with what they see in the environment. Children hold hands and follow instructions, being careful when walking as 'Jack Frost' has been and it 'might be slippery'. Some opportunities are missed and staff do not always build on what children already know. For example, following a walk, the painting activity does not engage the children or ignite their imagination to learn. The limited resources mean that children are unable to explore colour, texture or shape while it is fresh in their minds. Staff carry out observations and assess the children to identify their next step in learning. Planning identifies what each child needs to learn to make progress. At group times, older children sit together, they concentrate well and sit legs crossed, following instruction. Staff model language well. Older children learn how their names sound and appear in writing. Younger children enjoy their own group times and learn simple action rhymes and songs. They join in with the words they know and they follow actions, promoting their physical development and imagination by holding up their arms to 'fly like a dragon'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management compromise children's welfare. However, behaviour is generally good and children are happy and show a sense of belonging in the nursery. Children are learning to take turns and think about how others feel. They greet their friends warmly when they arrive, giving them a hug. Children learn about routines

and the sequence of the day through pictures that are displayed in the room. This helps them to understand when it is meal times, time to go home, time to play. For younger children this provides reassurance of a parent coming back for them and supports their emotional well-being. Parents speak highly of the setting and know who their child's key person is. There is a daily record of communication which parents value as it tells them about their child's day.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Most children are showing typical progress, taking account of their starting points. They are gaining the basic skills they will need to prepare them for their next stage of learning. That said, there has been a delay in obtaining additional support. This means that not all children are yet making the best progress possible. Children develop their physical skills and they have access to climbing equipment in the park. They learn to walk and run safely and to negotiate turning skilfully, in and outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY451710
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10080699
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Chainey, Sarah
Registered person unique reference number	RP516380
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2018
Telephone number	01675462120

Chestnut Tree Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 2. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm all year round, with the exception of bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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