

Little Acorns Nursery

H M Prison, Styal Road, Styal, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 4HR



Inspection date	30 January 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Not met (with enforcement)
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision does not meet requirements

- There are serious breaches in requirements that have a significant impact on children's safety, welfare and learning. These include a failure to notify Ofsted of significant events that may affect the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The newly appointed manager does not hold a suitable early years qualification. There is no named deputy to take charge in the manager's absence.
- Managers cannot verify that they consistently meet staff ratio and qualification requirements. Staff do not receive regular and effective supervision. Staff turnover is high due to ongoing disputes. This does not promote effective teamwork and does not ensure children's welfare and safety.
- The lead practitioner for safeguarding has not attended training for her role and staff do not have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues. This does not protect children from risks.
- Children are not assigned a key person to meet their individual needs. Children are not always given daily opportunities to enjoy outdoor activities.
- Required information is missing to show the vetting processes carried out to confirm all staff are suitable for their role. This relates to identity and qualification checks, including training in paediatric first aid. Staff fail to keep an accurate daily record of children's hours of attendance. Not all required policies and procedures are in place to support good practice. This does not ensure the safe management of the nursery.
- Staff do not promote children's learning well enough. They do not consistently plan, assess and monitor children's development. This does not ensure that all children make good progress.
- Managers are aware of the serious failings in the nursery. They are starting to address weaknesses with input from parents. An improvement team is overseeing developments. Parents speak positively about the recent changes they have seen.

There were no children present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action:

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure the manager holds at least a full and relevant level 3 qualification, and ensure there is a named deputy who is capable and qualified to take charge in her absence	13/02/2019
ensure staff ratio and qualification requirements are consistently met, to meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety	13/02/2019
ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for the supervision of staff to promote a culture of mutual support, teamwork and continuous improvement	13/02/2019
ensure the lead practitioner for safeguarding attends a child protection training course, and ensure all staff have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues	13/02/2019
ensure each child is assigned a key person to meet their individual needs and develop secure relationships with children and parents	13/02/2019
ensure outdoor activities are consistently planned and taken daily	13/02/2019
ensure records are available to verify the suitability of all staff, including information about qualifications, training, identity checks and vetting processes carried out	13/02/2019
ensure an accurate daily record is kept of the names of children and their hours of attendance	13/02/2019
ensure all required policies and procedures to promote the safe and efficient management of the nursery are in place and available for inspection.	13/02/2019

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

	Due date
ensure staff consistently observe, assess and monitor children's development, and plan challenging and enjoyable learning experiences for each child.	13/02/2019

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery and looked at equipment and resources.
- The inspector spoke with some staff and held discussions with the manager and operations manager.
- The inspector reviewed records made available for inspection and checked the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Jan Linsdell

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY557694
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10092779
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	0 - 2
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	Family Action
Registered person unique reference number	RP517161
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01625 553 128

Little Acorns Nursery re-registered in 2018 following a change of provider. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Thursday, all year round. Sessions are from 8.30am until midday.

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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