

Ladybird's Play And Toddler Group

The Salvation Army Hall, Impington Lane, CAMBRIDGE CB24 9LT



Inspection date

8 February 2019

Previous inspection date

21 July 2015

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

- Members of the management committee do not know what actions to take in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. Children's welfare is further compromised as they have no knowledge of the 'Prevent' duty guidance.
- The management committee have failed to inform Ofsted of all members of the committee. This means that the suitability of individuals has yet to be verified.
- The standard of teaching is variable. Staff do not always promote children's learning effectively during play.
- The manager does not supervise staff effectively. Weaknesses in teaching are not identified or addressed to ensure children benefit from a good level of support.
- Strong partnerships with other settings that children also attend or move to are not embedded in practice.
- The manager does not have systems in place to analyse the progress groups of children make or to and swiftly address any identified gaps in their learning.
- Self-evaluation is not effective in identifying weaknesses in practice and prompting swift action for improvement.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy their time at playgroup. They are forming positive relationships with staff and beginning to play collaboratively with one another.
- Parents offer positive feedback about their children's experiences and are pleased about how settled their children are.

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
gain a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures and practice, including the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made about a member of staff and the 'Prevent' duty guidance	28/02/2019
improve knowledge of the statutory requirements and ensure information about members of the management committee are submitted without delay to enable further suitability checks to be carried out by Ofsted	11/03/2019
improve the quality of teaching so that staff consistently provide children with appropriate levels of challenge, in line with their development	15/04/2019
ensure that the arrangements for the supervision of staff is effective and provides training and coaching that improves the quality of their teaching.	28/02/2019

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

- develop strong and effective partnerships with other providers to promote a shared approach to supporting children's progress
- implement monitoring procedures for comparing the progress made by different groups of children to identify groups that may need further support or challenge
- use self-evaluation to accurately identify weaknesses in practice and target areas for improvement, to raise outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager, a committee member, and the deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The management committee have no understanding of their statutory responsibilities for children's safety and welfare. They are not aware of the 'Prevent' duty guidance and the need to protect children from extremist views. The committee are not aware of the local safeguarding reporting procedures and the actions to take if a concern is raised about a member of staff. This potentially puts children at risk. In addition, Ofsted has not been informed of the current membership of the committee. Some have been in post for a considerable time, although they do not work with the children or have access to confidential information. Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been carried out for all individuals. However, the lack of notification means that Ofsted have been unable to carry out further background checks and the suitability of all members has not been fully established. The manager holds staff meetings, nevertheless, she does not supervise staff well enough. Staff are not given enough coaching or support to help improve their teaching. Staff attend statutory training to meet the requirements for first aid and safeguarding. They know how to identify and report child protection matters to the appropriate professionals. Partnership working with other providers is not embedded in practice. This means children are not supported effectively as they move to nursery or attend more than one provision. Partnerships with parents are satisfactory. The manager works directly with the children and has a general overview of their progress. However, she has yet to monitor and analyse the progress made by groups of children. This means that potentially children's learning and development needs are not being met. Self-evaluation is poor and does not identify weaknesses in practice or support stringent action plans for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is not consistently good. Staff do not always focus sufficiently on children's activities and consequently miss opportunities to extend and enhance their learning. In addition, there are times when staff are not successful in helping younger children to join in with planned activities even though they show an interest. Nevertheless, children generally enjoy their time playing. They like to explore and some older children concentrate well on activities that interest them. For example, children pretend to make 'noodle tea' and thoroughly enjoy mixing ingredients together. They fill and empty containers and use spoons and scoops confidently. Children have opportunities to use pencils and crayons and be creative.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management have an impact on children's welfare. However, staff take suitable precautions to keep children safe. They ensure the premises are secure and help children to assess possible risks for themselves. For example, children are gently reminded not to try eating the rice used in a focused activity. Children learn about good hygiene as they wash hands prior to eating and talk about the fruits they eat at snack time. Children have access to the garden, where they have opportunities to enhance their physical skills by using ride-on toys.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in teaching mean that children do not make enough progress from their starting points. However, they are familiar with daily routines and learn how to behave appropriately. Children enjoy looking at books and joining in with story time. Children feel secure in the company of staff and are gaining some skills for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY280989
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10062048
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Ladybird's Play And Toddler Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP903053
Date of previous inspection	21 July 2015
Telephone number	07786 752949

Ladybird's Play and Toddler Group registered in 2004. The group employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The group opens Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12pm. The group provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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