

# Munchkins Day Nursery

44 York Road, Holland on Sea, Essex CO15 5NN



## Inspection date

29 April 2019

Previous inspection date

21 February 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

### This is a provision that requires improvement

- Managers and staff do not communicate with parents effectively. Parents are not provided with sufficient information, for example, when there are changes to management or staff.
- Teaching is not consistently strong. Not all staff understand how to enhance children's learning effectively, for example, by asking appropriate or challenging questions and following children's lead.
- The premises and equipment are not organised well enough in the room for two- to three-year-old children to ensure that they can enjoy meals and rest time in accordance with their needs.

### It has the following strengths

- The manager and staff have good links with outside agencies to help to support families and to introduce appropriate interventions to help to close gaps in children's learning.
- Children across the nursery are settled and confident. They show no concern when a visitor is present and enjoy involving adults in their play and discussions. Babies form close relationships with their key persons and enjoy frequent cuddles with them.
- Children are provided with good opportunities to play outdoors in the exciting and well-equipped garden. They have fun in the large sandpit, burying items and digging them back up.
- Staff monitor children's progress. They make regular observations of the children's play and use the information they know about each child to plan a suitable range of learning opportunities.

## 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 parents are provided with relevant information to enable them to be assured that their child's needs are being met	17/05/2019
ensure that teaching is responsive to each child's emerging learning needs and interests, and offers children opportunities to be appropriately challenged and to develop their thinking skills	17/05/2019
ensure that the premises and equipment are organised in a way that meets the needs of all children.	17/05/2019

### Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received.
- The inspector observed an adult-led activity and evaluated it with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the provider, manager and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

**Inspector**  
Lynn Hughes

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The manager has systems in place for dealing with concerns from parents and others. However, communication between management, staff and parents is not robust. The setting has received a number of complaints from parents who are not happy with the methods of communication and the information shared about their child's care. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff update their safeguarding knowledge through appropriate training and through open discussions at staff meetings. They are alert to the possible signs that might indicate that a child is at harm or that they are being drawn into extreme views. Managers understand the procedures to follow if concerns are raised about children's care or allegations are made against staff. Children play in a safe environment. Staff carry out daily risk assessments.

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

Not all staff demonstrate consistently strong teaching skills. Some staff are not responsive enough to individual children's needs. For example, children try to attract the attention of staff delivering group activities to enable them to fully participate, but their requests are not heard. The manager said that she has helped staff to develop their questioning skills to enhance children's thinking since the last inspection. However, there was little evidence of this being done effectively at the time of this inspection. Despite this, children enjoy their nursery day. They participate in freely chosen play and guide their own games. Staff help to develop children's communication and language skills through singing, storytelling and small-group discussions. Some parents spoken to at the time of the inspection shared positive comments about how their children are progressing and enjoying their time at the nursery.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Managers and staff have not given enough consideration to how the needs of the children in the two- to three-year-olds' room are met. Mealtimes are cramped and disorganised and children do not have sufficient bedding to take a rest comfortably. Children move confidently around the nursery. Younger children negotiate the stairs well as they move from their nursery room to the garden. Staff have clear information about children's allergies and medical needs and work with the cook to ensure that all children's dietary requirements are taken into consideration when preparing meals. Children enjoy physical play in the garden. A new fenced area enables younger babies to play more safely outdoors. Children learn about the local and wider community when they go for walks to the beach, shops and other local places of interest.

### Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are generally prepared for their next stage of learning, such as school. However, weaknesses in the quality of teaching mean that children do not make the best progress that they can. Children are becoming independent. They change their indoor and outdoor shoes when they play in the garden and return. They make choices over their play by accessing the resources presented at their height. Older children share conversations with their friends, to enhance their games and to share experiences from home.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY473000
<b>Local authority</b>	Essex
<b>Inspection number</b>	10103122
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	59
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Munchkins Day Care Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP902624
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	21 February 2018
<b>Telephone number</b>	01255 317200

Munchkins Day Nursery registered in 2014. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including the manager who holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery receives funding for the provision of early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

