

Dolphin Day Nursery

243 Green Lane, MORDEN, Surrey SM4 6SQ



Inspection date

13 June 2019

Previous inspection date

14 December 2018

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

- The nursery's safeguarding policy does not include a clear explanation of the action to take in the event of an allegation against staff, as required. Some staff are not able to describe the action they would take if there was an allegation. This puts children at potential risk of harm.
- Records about children, particularly when there are concerns about their welfare, are not detailed enough to keep children safe.
- Staff do not provide children with the nutrition they need to be healthy. For example, many meals are high in processed foods and do not contain enough vegetables.
- The provider continues to fail to use self-evaluation to help identify weaknesses in the provision and make necessary improvements.
- Staff interrupt young children's learning to change their nappy, unnecessarily, to fit in with the routine. Older children are required to sleep in the afternoon, whether or not they are tired, in order to create a quiet environment for younger children who do want to sleep. This does not meet children's individual developmental needs.
- Staff do not provide enough challenge for children, through the activities and care they provide for children, and their interactions with them.

It has the following strengths

- Staff offer a welcoming environment that is inviting for both children and parents. Well-organised displays for parents provide them with information on what their child is learning and how children develop. This helps to promote continuous learning at home.
- Children have daily access to outdoor activities at the nursery and in the local community. They enjoy playing in the rain and splashing in puddles.

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 nursery's safeguarding policy and procedures include a clear explanation of the action to take in the event of an allegation against staff, in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures	28/06/2019
make sure all staff understand the procedures to follow to safeguard children, particularly in relation to the action to take if there is an allegation against a member of staff, in line with LSCB procedures	28/06/2019
provide children with food that is healthy, balanced and nutritious	28/06/2019
ensure information and records about children, particularly when there are concerns about their welfare, are sufficiently detailed in order for them to be shared with other professionals, if necessary, and keep children safe.	28/06/2019

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

	Due date
develop a system of robust self-evaluation and identify areas for improvement so that the quality of provision continuously improves	12/07/2019
review the nursery's routines, particularly the sleeping and nappy changing arrangements, to ensure that all children's care and learning needs are met	12/07/2019
consistently use staff observations, and information from parents about what children can do at home, to set challenging targets that meet all children's individual needs and help them to progress to the next stage in their development.	12/07/2019

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff, parents and the provider/manager at different times throughout the inspection. She held a meeting with the provider/manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider/manager and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector looked at children's records, evidence of training and a range of other documents, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Sam Colderwood

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. Since the last inspection, those responsible for safeguarding have received training to be able to carry out their role and support staff with safeguarding matters. However, training has not been effective as some staff do not know the correct procedures to follow if there is an allegation made against a staff member. Also, the nursery's safeguarding policy and procedures do not detail the procedures to follow so that staff can refer to the policy should the need arise. The provider has implemented new procedures for when children have unexplained bruising. However, staff do not record sufficient detail about the injury to adequately safeguard children and share with other agencies if necessary. The provider has taken some action to address the weaknesses from the last inspection, such as removing hazards in the bathroom. However, self-evaluation remains weak. The provider does not accurately identify weaknesses in the quality of care and learning, particularly in relation to how the routines of the nursery meet children's individual needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is inconsistent across the nursery. Some staff do not have high enough expectations of children to move them on to the next stage in their learning. For example, some conversations and activities with more-able children are too basic to challenge their thinking. Resources and activities, both indoors and outdoors, are stimulating and inviting. Children develop their imaginations in the 'cake shop'. They practise their physical skills, for example, when they use the tweezers to pick 'treasure' out of the sand. However, some children, particularly younger and quieter children, spend long periods without any engagement with others and not involved in play or learning. Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's progress, which parents contribute to. However, records of information provided by parents about what children can do at home are not always used effectively to progress children's development. For example, when children are reported to be able to use a potty at home, this is not supported and progressed within the nursery.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The weaknesses in safeguarding compromise children's safety and welfare. Routines, such as those for sleeping and changing nappies, do not meet children's individual care and learning needs. Children behave well and learn how to keep themselves safe. They enjoy regular outdoor activity when they play in the large, well-resourced garden and on visits to the local park. This helps to keep them healthy and active. However, staff do not know enough about how to provide healthy food for children. As a result, meals are high in carbohydrates and salt, and lack the balance and nutrition that children need.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Most children make good progress from their starting points. They learn skills to develop independence in readiness for school. For example, children use knives and forks at lunchtime and cut their own food. However, the weaknesses in the routine and the quality of teaching mean that some children, particularly those exceeding outcomes for the early years foundation stage, do not make as much progress as they could.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477284
Local authority	Sutton
Inspection number	10090844
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	1 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Thurn, Deborah
Registered person unique reference number	RP515447
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2018
Telephone number	02082881945

Dolphin Day Nursery registered in 2014. It operates from church premises in Morden, within the London Borough of Sutton. It is open each weekday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery employs six members of staff; of these, two hold a foundation degree, three hold relevant childcare qualifications and one is unqualified.

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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