Grunty's Day Care

Newton Hall, Staining Road, Blackpool, Lancashire FY3 0AX



Inspection date	8 August 2019
Previous inspection date	16 April 2018

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Inadequate	4	
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4	
Quality of teaching, learning and asse	essment	Good	2	
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4	
Outcomes for children		Good	2	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Children's well-being is compromised. This is because the setting does not follow stringent recruitment procedures to ensure that all new staff are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their role.
- The manager and staff do not assure children's safety. Their risk assessment processes are not rigorous. Potential hazards, specifically in the outdoor area, are sometimes overlooked and not always eliminated promptly enough to reduce the risk of harm to children. This compromises children's safety.
- Leaders do not use monitoring and self-evaluation successfully to ensure that all legal requirements are met.
- On occasions, staff do not correctly model language for children.
- Not all staff consistently gather detailed information about children's existing skills and abilities when they first start at the setting.

It has the following strengths

- Staff provide a welcoming and caring environment. They demonstrate kind and patient behaviour, helping children to develop in confidence and feel valued. Children are happy, self-assured and motivated to learn.
- Staff complete precise assessments of children's learning. They provide a rich and varied array of activities that truly reflect children's interests and address what children need to learn next.
- Parents are very complimentary about the nursery and the supportive staff team. They appreciate the communication they receive via the online learning system and the daily discussions about the progress their children make and the activities they have enjoyed.

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
implement robust recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff working with children are suitable to do so	30/08/2019
ensure that risk assessments identify all possible hazards to children and that all reasonable steps are taken to minimise these risks, in order to promote children's safety.	30/08/2019

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

- enhance self-evaluation and monitoring procedures to ensure that all legal requirements are met and any weaknesses are promptly addressed
- support staff to develop their teaching skills to ensure that the correct language is being modelled at all times so children hear the correct pronunciation of new words
- consistently gather more comprehensive information from parents about what children know and can already do, particularly in the Daisy room, in order to inform planning from the outset.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's development plans and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Rigorous recruitment processes are not implemented. For example, references are not always sought for new staff, despite this being a company policy. This means that the suitability of some staff working at the nursery is not fully assured. That said, all staff have undergone appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service checks. Additionally, staff have an adequate understanding of the procedures to follow to report any concerns they may have about children or colleagues. Risk assessments are not sufficiently robust. Leaders and staff do not ensure that children are able to play in a safe and secure environment, particularly in outdoor areas. Despite staff undertaking checks, rubbish and debris, including litter, remain where children play. Leaders do not monitor effectively to ensure that all legal requirements are met. However, they do monitor children's progress successfully. They provide opportunities for staff to discuss their practice and facilitate training opportunities to enable staff to further develop their knowledge and skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and provide a stimulating environment that covers all the areas of learning. Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Staff understand when to get involved in children's play and when to stand back and offer support as it is needed. For example, staff in the pre-school room ask children questions and give suggestions at appropriate times to further develop their imagination when building a castle. Children expertly use crates, tubes and boxes as they work collaboratively, listening to one another's suggestions. Children delight in sensory activities as they make 'potions'. Staff encourage children to talk about what they are doing and to share their ideas. Younger children thoroughly enjoy exploring the texture of flour. They are encouraged to make marks in the flour and fill containers, developing their hand-to-eye coordination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The provider cannot assure children's safety and well-being, given the identified weaknesses in safeguarding. Limitations in leadership and management impact on children's welfare. Despite this, staff develop kind and nurturing relationships with children. A successful key-person system and flexible settling-in arrangements help to support children's emotional well-being. Children are afforded opportunities to help develop their large-muscle skills as they engage in football and dance sessions and visit the indoor play area. Staff support children to understand what is expected of them. They offer gentle reminders about turn taking and sharing and reiterate the nursery's rules, for example using 'kind hands' and 'walking feet'.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development, including those children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Young children show increasing independence as they select what they want to do. They show awe and wonder as they confidently explore and investigate their surroundings. Older children are skilful communicators and confidently describe what they are doing. They use number names and mathematical language as they play together with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference numberEY282289Local authorityLancashireInspection number10118626

Type of provision Childcare on non-domestic premises

Registers Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Day care type Full day care

Age range of children0 - 4Total number of places112Number of children on roll232

Name of registered person Partington's Holiday Centres Limited

Registered person unique

Date of previous inspection

reference number

16 April 2018

RP524074

Telephone number 01253 300455

Grunty's Day Care registered in 2004. The nursery employs 33 members of childcare staff. Of these, 26 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds early years professional status and one who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6.30pm, all year round, except bank holidays and a week at Christmas. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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