

# Inspection of Sutton Heath Childcare Centre

Community Centre, Easton Road, Sutton, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 3TD

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Inspection date: 3 October 2019

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## **Overall effectiveness**

**Inadequate**

The quality of education

**Inadequate**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Inadequate**

Personal development

**Inadequate**

Leadership and management

**Inadequate**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is inadequate

Leaders fail to safeguard children's welfare and are in breach of several requirements of the early years foundation stage and the Childcare Register. Children do not receive a good-quality education that helps them to reach their full potential. Their learning needs are not adequately understood by staff. For example, staff fail to identify and provide appropriate support when children are falling behind in specific areas of their development. Despite this, children enjoy their time at the centre. They have suitable opportunities to practise and challenge their physical skills while playing in the outdoor area. Staff ensure that activities reflect the languages, traditions and cultural practices children experience at home. For example, they invite parents into the centre to show children how to make traditional Nepalese dumplings.

Children demonstrate, through their positive behaviour and attitudes, that they feel happy. Staff adopt a warm and reassuring approach which helps children to settle quickly when they first attend. Children play cooperatively as part of a small group. They are encouraged to take the lead in negotiating roles and establishing positive 'rules' for behaviour. They often remind each other of the importance of sharing toys, being kind and using their 'walking feet' while indoors.

### What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Leaders do not do enough to keep children safe. They allow staff who have not completed enhanced criminal records checks to care for children.
- Leaders do not fully understand their duty to inform Ofsted of changes to the manager and committee. As a result, Ofsted has not been provided with the information required to check the suitability of all committee members.
- Some staff lack knowledge of the procedure they must follow if they have a concern about the conduct of a member of staff or the manager. This means that children's welfare is compromised.
- Assessments of children's learning are ineffective. On occasion, staff fail to accurately identify children's stages of development. Staff are slow to respond when children's progress is falling behind. For example, they do not routinely share information with the special educational needs coordinator to draw on her expertise and enable her to consider whether a child may require specialist support.
- The arrangements for the supervision of the manager and staff are weak. Leaders do not check that the manager's workload is manageable or make sure she is able to fulfil all the expectations of her role. This means that significant weaknesses in practice are missed and not swiftly addressed to bring about improvement.
- Staff support children's communication skills well. For example, they encourage

younger children to describe the shapes and textures of different types of brushes. Staff use simple sign language to help children who speak English as an additional language to understand simple instructions and build their vocabulary.

- Staff carefully consider children's individual care practices. They gather appropriate information from parents before children attend and review routines regularly to help ensure children experience continuity of care. For example, staff take time to understand children's toileting routines at home and make sure children experience a similar approach while at the centre.
- Parents are encouraged to share their views and have daily opportunities to exchange information about their children's progress. Staff create opportunities for parents to further support their children's learning at home, for example by providing popular storybooks for children to take home to share with their families.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's welfare is not assured. Although staff understand how to recognise the signs of abuse or neglect, they are not always aware of who they must inform if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Overall, the procedures for the recruitment of staff are poorly managed. For example, the manager does not thoroughly check the employment history and references for all staff to make sure there are no concerns about their suitability to work with children.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.**

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

	Due date
implement robust recruitment practice, including obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure for all new and existing staff	31/10/2019
ensure staff have up-to-date knowledge of what they must do in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff	31/10/2019

ensure staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the 'Special Educational Needs Code of Practice', including how to identify and respond when a child may have a special educational need and/or disability	31/10/2019
develop appropriate arrangements for the effective supervision and coaching of the manager and staff, in order to review their personal effectiveness and identify training needs.	31/10/2019

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

	<b>Due date</b>
make accurate assessments of children's progress and use the information obtained to identify children's next steps in learning and plan suitable support, particularly in areas where children's progress is lower than expected.	31/10/2019

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	251689
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	10072663
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Sessional day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	72
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	32
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sutton Heath Childcare Centre Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP523290
<b>Telephone number</b>	01394 461090
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	22 April 2016

## Information about this early years setting

Sutton Heath Childcare Centre registered in 1997. The centre employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The centre operates each weekday during school term times. It is open from 8.45am to 3.45pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 8.45am to 11.45am on Wednesdays and Fridays. The centre provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Sarah Clements

## Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour with the manager to review the quality of children's experiences and staff's teaching practice.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and members of the committee at appropriate times during the inspection. The inspector also took account of the views of parents in discussion.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and administrator.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability and training of staff and committee members.

We carried out this inspection 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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