

Inspection of Happitots Day Nursery

31 Chorley Road, Westhoughton, Bolton BL5 3PD

Inspection date: 1 October 2019

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Children enter the nursery happily and separate from their parents or carers with ease. They enjoy the company of the staff and demonstrate that they are emotionally secure. Most staff are qualified and they ensure that activities and equipment provide children with experiences that span all seven areas of learning. However, staff do not keep all parts of the nursery in a sufficiently suitable state of cleanliness or repair. The sinks and shelving are soiled. Rooms used for children's rests are not always aired to help them remain fresh. Equipment, such as the buttons to flush the children's toilets, are damaged. This makes it difficult for children to operate these and limits their ability to follow good hygiene practices and attend to their own needs.

Overall, children's behaviour is good and when activities offer appropriate challenge, they demonstrate an eagerness to explore and learn. Children enjoy stories and singing. In the main, staff encourage children to extend their speaking skills, however, they do not always model the correct pronunciation of words. Staff plan a variety of activities for children to provide variety. However, while the activities offer new experiences, when in group situations they are too challenging or too long. Staff do not consider the children's differing individual development stages. The owner has begun to seek support from a representative of the local authority to help her improve staff's skills and to encourage professional development. Staff gain plenty of useful information from parents to accurately identify what children know and can do when they start at nursery.

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

- The management team has made positive improvements to the way that staff engage with parents since the last inspection. Staff observe and accurately assess children's ongoing progress and share this with parents. They know their key children well and the overall organisation of the nursery enables children to play and learn so that they continue to make some progress.
- Parents particularly enjoy information shared through the nursery's social media accounts. They like the updates provided in the morning about what is being offered for children to play with and the explanations about the types of play and what children are learning from them.
- Staff are patient and calm. They help children to understand that they need to take turns with equipment, for example when using the tape measure.
- The 'reading tent' is visited by children frequently and with much glee. Staff work in partnership with local professionals to implement initiatives and schemes to promote children's communication and language. Information, such as the current songs and stories being shared with the children, is also made available to parents. This helps them to support their children's learning at home.

- Staff do not always make the best use of daily activities to introduce new vocabulary or to correctly model speech. For instance, when discussing a leaf on a strawberry, they refer to it as 'the green bit'.
- The quality of teaching varies across the nursery. Babies are supported to learn to persevere as they try to fit the pieces into a puzzle or to post a ball down a tube. All staff count as children play and help to reinforce early numeracy. Pens and other materials for making marks help children to develop their early writing. However, some group activities, such as when staff are teaching children about rainfall, are too difficult for all children to understand. Staff do not take into account what children already know, to help them build on this.
- The owner and deputy manager have begun to review staff's differing training needs to help staff develop their professional practice. For instance, training for staff in the baby room about working with young children is helping to improve the play experiences they provide.
- Staff ensure that children have access to a range of toys and equipment while playing outside, to ensure that children develop their physical skills. They take children on regular outings to help them learn about their local environment and the changing seasons.
- The kitchen is clean and staff provide a range of healthy meals and snacks. However, the general repair, organisation and cleanliness of the playrooms and stairways do not fully promote children's good health.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Required adult-to-child ratios are maintained and staff ensure that children are well supervised inside the nursery and when on outings. They understand the procedures for whistle-blowing and to report poor conduct or any allegations about their co-workers. Staff understand that the no-smoking policy must be adhered to. Procedures for safeguarding are representative of the welfare requirements. Staff are familiar with the possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm. They know how to report any concerns they may have. The owner has identified that some staff are less familiar with aspects of wider safeguarding knowledge. A training programme is under way to improve this.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	Due date
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<p>ensure that effective arrangements for the cleaning of the premises and the swift undertaking of any repairs required are carried out to ensure that the premises are fit for purpose and fully promote the well-being of children at all times</p>	<p>09/10/2019</p>
<p>support staff to plan group activities that provide a suitably challenging and enjoyable experience for each child participating.</p>	<p>29/10/2019</p>

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

- help all staff to develop the quality of their own speaking skills so that children consistently hear and develop their understanding of how to correctly form sentences and pronounce words
- complete the programme of training currently underway so that all staff have a secure understanding of wider safeguarding procedures.

Setting details

Unique reference number	316020
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	10072838
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 3
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Barstow, Diane Margaret
Registered person unique reference number	RP907926
Telephone number	01942 815 702
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

Happitots Day Nursery registered in 1992. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or 5. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Frank Kelly

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the learning environment inside and outdoors, and the ways that staff interacted with children. He evaluated the impact this had on children's learning.
- The deputy manager and inspector toured the nursery. They discussed the way that the deputy manager and owner ensure children receive learning experiences that cover all areas of learning and help children to make progress.
- A sample of the nursery's documentation was viewed. This included evidence about staff suitability and training, arrangements for outings, complaints procedures and plans for future improvement.
- Parents took the time to share their views with the inspector. The inspector also viewed written information about how parents are kept up to date with what is happening in the nursery.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the deputy manager. The inspector also held discussions with children and staff at suitable times during the inspection.

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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