

Inspection of Seashells Nursery

Mablethorpe Children's Centre, Stanley Avenue, Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire LN12
1DP

Inspection date: 20 November 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 enjoy some interesting activities. However, at times they lose interest because staff do not always adapt learning to meet their specific needs. There are also weaknesses in the assessment of children's stage of development. As a result, children do not make the best possible progress in their learning. That said, the pre-school children are developing their communication skills well. They engage in interactive and exciting singing sessions, using props to play the characters in the song. The children join in with familiar songs and are very keen to sing their favourite ones.

Children are happy and well cared for in a safe environment. They are developing positive relationships with the staff. Parents and carers are positive about the nurturing experiences their children receive. Staff have high expectations of children with regards to their independence and what they should achieve. For example, children have a go at cutting up their fruit and washing their own crockery at snack time. Children are keen to join in when staff ask for helpers to assist with tasks. Children in the pre-school room behave well and play happily together. Staff use positive rules to support younger children to take turns and share resources.

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

- The management team has appropriate processes in place to monitor the quality of education and check that identified actions improve the quality of the provision. Arrangements for the supervision of staff are in place but are not yet identifying areas of development for all staff to improve the quality of education.
- Staff provide children with a range of freely chosen and planned play opportunities. However, staff do not always have a secure understanding of children's starting points or their current stage of development. Staff working with younger children do not identify and extend the learning needs of the quieter children. Some activities are too complex, and the younger children lose interest. Staff do not plan activities for children that provide appropriate challenge or stretch their thinking consistently.
- The management team has implemented a new, simplified planning system that all staff are becoming confident in. The priority for planning is on children's interests and communication and language skills, throughout the nursery. The manager and staff plan specific activities for children to develop their communication skills. In the toddler room children access books that repeat simple words and phrases. In the pre-school room staff are skilful at using props to engage children in exciting story and song sessions. As a result, children are making some progress in their communication skills.
- The staff team has worked hard in a short time to improve the environment both

indoors and outside, and provide a wider range of resources. This encourages children's interest in their play and learning. Children have opportunities to enjoy a range of activities, for example, they can explore the texture of different objects, bake gingerbread men and construct with blocks.

- Staff show great care and concern for the children. Staff demonstrate how to be considerate and helpful to others. Parents state that they use the nursery rules at home such as, 'good listening and kind hands', as they are so effective in helping their children to learn about managing their own behaviour. Mealtimes are happy and sociable occasions. Children are encouraged to display good manners and eat healthily.
- The manager and staff show a strong commitment to improving children's experiences. The outdoor learning environment is constantly accessible to the children. New resources have been added to give children opportunities to play with toys and equipment outdoors that they do not usually experience. As they play outside children are able to develop their large-muscle skills as they climb, balance and use large crates and planks to construct and create obstacles.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff clearly understand what they must do to protect children from abuse and neglect. There are secure safeguarding policies and procedures in place, and staff are supported to understand these during their induction. The manager ensures that she and all the staff keep their training up to date, including about wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty. The manager works in strong partnerships with other professionals to safeguard children. Robust recruitment procedures ensure the suitability of staff. Staff check the premises daily to ensure it is a safe and secure environment for children to play in.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve assessment so that staff understand children's stage of development and use this information to provide more targeted support for children's next steps in learning
- improve the delivery of activities to ensure all children are consistently engaged in challenging play
- improve the arrangements for the supervision of staff to drive improvements to the quality of education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337834
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10106638
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Pre-School Learning Alliance
Registered person unique reference number	RP900844
Telephone number	01507 479412
Date of previous inspection	18 December 2014

Information about this early years setting

Seashells Nursery registered in 2006 and is located within Mablethorpe Children's Centre in Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, four hold qualifications at level 3, one at level 4. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 9am until 4pm, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Waterfall

Inspection activities

- 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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and operations manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a learning walk with the nursery manager and operations manager.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

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.

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/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2019