

Inspection of Little Stacks Day Nursery

White Stacks Farm, Fleckney Road, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicester LE8 0HJ

Inspection date:

12 February 2020

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's welfare is not supported effectively by staff. Children are not kept safe as the provider fails to meet statutory requirements. The provider has not acted to address weaknesses identified at the last inspection. As a result, children receive poor quality care and learning experiences.

Children do not benefit fully from the activities offered to them due to disorganised routines and weak delivery of some aspects of the curriculum. For example, staff are unclear of their roles during circle time. This limits opportunities for children to learn or gain enjoyment from the story being read to them. Staff do not have high enough expectations for children's behaviour. At times, children become disinterested and their behaviour deteriorates as staff fail to engage them.

Staff regularly assess what children know and can do. They share information with each other about what children need to learn next at weekly meetings. As a result, most children make the progress they are capable of.

Children happily take part in different activities as they walk around the on-site farm. They see and touch animals such as alpacas and sheep. Children develop their physical skills as they enjoy climbing over hay bales, running through grass and jumping in muddy puddles. However, children's care needs are not thoroughly supported by staff. For example, children become cold and wet as they are not given the appropriate clothing to wear when playing outside.

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

- The provider does not have robust systems in place to make sure those working with children are suitable to do so. She has failed to obtain Disclosure and Barring Service checks or previous employment references for new members of staff. This does not assure children's safety and is not in line with the setting's recruitment procedures.
- Staff do not know how to make the most of planned and spontaneous activities to enhance children's learning. For example, during a walk, staff do not take the opportunity to build upon what children already know about the farm and the animals. In addition, the organisation of daily routines and planning of activities are not fully effective. Children do not have consistent opportunities to take part in purposeful play and learning experiences that match their individual needs and capabilities.
- Staff do not seek guidance from other professionals who are involved in children's development. This means that children who require additional help are not supported fully to promote their development. For example, staff do not liaise effectively with other agencies to ensure they are able to support children's

individual needs.

- Staff provide children with opportunities to develop their communication skills and express themselves. Children enjoy singing and dancing to songs when staff play the guitar. During lunchtime, staff sit and talk to babies and make sure they have lots of eye contact with them as they do so. The babies smile at the staff in response.
- The provider has failed to ensure that all staff know and understand the setting's safeguarding procedure. Staff do not know the correct action to follow if they have concerns about an adult working with children. Furthermore, the systems used to induct new members of staff are not robust. As a result, new staff do not understand the setting's policies and procedures, in particular the setting's safeguarding policy.
- Risk assessments are ineffective. Staff fail to identify safety hazards and risk assess resources within the environment. For example, babies have access to chunks of raw jelly which may pose a choking risk to them.
- The manager has an accurate view of the experiences children have outside of the setting. This means she can support children to broaden their experiences to prepare them for future success. For example, children learn about people who help them in the community. Local police and firefighters visit the setting and talk to the children about what they do to keep everyone safe. However, more could be done to help children to understand about the world they live in, for example the similarities and differences between themselves and other people.
- The provider has now implemented an effective key-person system, which supports the emotional security of the children attending. Staff respond to parents' wishes about the care routines of their children. However, staff do not always support the physical health needs of children. For example, they do not make sure children are wearing the correct clothing or footwear when they are outside in cold weather. Furthermore, staff use wet wipes to wipe children's noses, which sometimes causes their skin to become sore.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider does not make sure that staff have a robust knowledge of safeguarding procedures. Staff do not know how to respond appropriately if an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff. The provider does not have effective systems in place to make sure that all staff understand their roles and responsibilities. Staff do not assess the activities they provide for children to make sure that resources do not pose a risk to their safety. All staff have a paediatric first-aid qualification, which means they can respond appropriately if a child has an accident.

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
take all reasonable steps to make sure children are not exposed to risks, and demonstrate how these risks are managed, with particular regard to the use of raw jelly in children's play activities	19/03/2020
ensure that all staff have a robust knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures and know how to respond appropriately if an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff	19/03/2020
ensure the setting's recruitment procedure is followed robustly to ensure all staff are suitable for their role	19/03/2020
ensure all staff receive induction training that helps them to understand their roles and responsibilities and includes information about safeguarding and child protection	19/03/2020
ensure that all staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities so that they can support children's learning and welfare effectively.	19/03/2020

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

	Due date
ensure that children who require additional help are supported fully to promote their development.	20/04/2020

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

- strengthen the quality of staff interactions with children so that they make the best of every learning opportunity to extend and challenge children's learning
- strengthen children's developing understanding of similarities and differences in people beyond their own community and the wider world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY545697
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10123264
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Little Stacks Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP545696
Telephone number	01162792002
Date of previous inspection	22 August 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Stacks Day Nursery registered in 2017 and is located in Leicestershire. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Caroline Clarke

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour of the premises with the manager. They talked about how the provider organises the nursery and the play and learning experiences they provide for children.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between staff and children and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She completed a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection. She held a meeting with the provider and reviewed documents such as evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector accompanied staff and children when they went on a walk around the on-site farm.

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 2020