

Inspection of TicTots Day Nursery & Creche

Sure Start Preston West, Ainsdale Drive, Ashton-on-Ribble, PRESTON PR2 1TU

Inspection date: 16 June 2021

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

The provider does not have a clear knowledge and understanding of the procedure to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. Furthermore, the child protection policy is not in line with local safeguarding partnership guidance or procedures. This has a significant impact on the safety and well-being of children.

Despite these weaknesses, children are happy and thoroughly enjoy their time at nursery. Staff are warm and friendly towards children, which in turn builds on secure and trusting relationships. Children's behaviour is excellent. They benefit from staff's positive reinforcement of expected behaviour and the shower of praise they receive.

Overall, children show good attitudes to their learning. Younger children show good listening skills as they join in with small-group activities and are able to follow instructions from staff. Older children enjoy navigating the wonderful dedicated outdoor space. They use their critical thinking and physical skills to decide safe ways to jump from the boat. Staff ensure that children feel respected and their contributions are valued. For example, children delight in casting their votes at story time to determine which book will be read. They count the puzzle pieces assigned to each book as a vote and share the result with their peers. This helps children to understand about democracy and fair ways to make decisions.

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

- Procedures for dealing with allegations against staff are not well understood. The provider, who is also the safeguarding lead, is not aware of her role in managing allegations or when to notify the local authority designated officer. This demonstrates a significant weakness in the provider's ability to ensure that children are safe in the nursery.
- Despite weaknesses in safeguarding, the provider has made good improvement in many areas since the last inspection. Leaders have implemented a local authority endorsed evaluation tool to aid reflective practice. This has had a good impact on practice in relation to the actions and recommendation previously raised.
- Partnership with parents is a particular strength. The parental involvement coordinator has taken the lead on promoting communication with parents and carers. This has included stay and play sessions and finding alternative ways to engage parents, particularly during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Parents praise staff on the excellent communication in place.
- Children attending with special educational needs and/or disabilities also benefit from partnership working. Leaders work closely with a wide range of involved

professionals, including sharing and implementing information. As a result, children's needs are well known and met.

- Leaders understand the local context of the nursery and the children and families that attend. As a result, the curriculum is well informed and designed to ensure that all children gain the skills and knowledge required to succeed. Furthermore, good understanding of children's needs means those in receipt of additional funding are equally well supported.
- Staff have a good knowledge of the curriculum and implement all areas of learning well. They use their good knowledge of children to decide what they already know and what they need to learn next. Staff differentiate their teaching well, ensuring that children receive suitably challenging interactions.
- Overall, the learning environments are engaging and support children's motivation and focus on learning. The pre-school outdoor space in particular offers children wonderful learning opportunities. However, although staff working with toddlers have clear intentions for learning, the implementation of their curriculum planning for outdoors is less effective. For example, staff have not considered the resources and equipment needed to complement their teaching. As a result, children lose interest and are not always thoroughly engaged.
- Effectiveness of staff teaching and practice is monitored well by the manager. Peer observations, supervision sessions and appraisals help to ensure that staff receive appropriate support and inform training needs. Ongoing communication training has been supporting staff in this area of children's development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider's lack of knowledge of safeguarding procedures impacts on her ability to provide staff with the correct support, advice and guidance to protect children, particularly in the event of an allegation being made. The provider does ensure, however, that all staff receive safeguarding training, including the cook, to ensure that all adults in contact with children are vigilant. Staff are able to identify areas and indicators of abuse, as well as those children who are more vulnerable. Children are well supervised and the nursery premises are secure.

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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develop knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues, in order to be able to respond in a timely and appropriate way to any child protection concerns, including in the event of an allegation being made against persons working on the premises	28/07/2021
ensure that safeguarding policies include an explanation of the action to be taken when there is a safeguarding concern about a child and in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff, and ensure that this is in line with the local safeguarding partnership.	28/07/2021

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

- strengthen the implementation of the curriculum planning for outdoor learning, in particular the toddler area, to help further engage and excite children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY425748
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10122865
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 at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Thompson (TIC TOTS) Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP902254
Telephone number	01772 727032
Date of previous inspection	23 August 2019

Information about this early years setting

TicTots Day Nursery & Creche registered in 2011. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and took account of her evaluations.
- The inspector completed a learning walk with the provider and held discussions about the early years provision and meeting children's needs.
- A joint observation was carried out and the inspector took account of the provider's evaluations.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the nursery documentation. This included evidence of suitability checks on staff and safeguarding policies.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the provider to discuss leadership and management arrangements.

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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