

Inspection of Blueberry Day Nursery Limited

Blueberry Day Nursery, Old Hall, 44 Bratt Street, West Bromwich, Staffordshire B70 8SB

Inspection date: 11 June 2021

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
The quality of education	Inadequate
Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
Personal development	Inadequate
Leadership and management	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Some children are very unsettled. Staff do not obtain or review information from parents in order to provide effectively for their individual needs. There is not enough support for children who speak English as an additional language. Staff cannot communicate with these children and do not respond to their cues. They are unable to meet their individual needs.

Children engage in play alongside their peers. However, the overall quality of experience for children is poor. Adult-led activities are poorly organised and lack focus and direction. For example, staff provide children with paint and paper plates with the intention of exploring emotions. However, staff do not introduce or explain the activity to children. They do not help children to understand what emotions like 'happy' and 'sad' mean. Staff hinder opportunities to enhance children's creativity and mark-marking skills. At group time, staff sing the alphabet to children and write numerals on a white board. They do not check that children understand. Children sit and watch but barely join in. They become disinterested. Children play outside, but the space available is restricted and poorly organised. They do not have opportunities to practise gross motor skills, such as running and jumping, freely. The progress children make in their learning is limited. They are not prepared for the next stage in their learning.

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

- Managers have failed to ensure that they continue to meet the requirements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'. There are many breaches which impact on the safeguarding of children, as well as the overall quality of care and education. Consequently, the care and education children receive are inadequate.
- The implementation of the curriculum is poor. Managers are able to explain some of the things they want children to learn at nursery. However, activities are poorly planned and organised. They do not achieve the intent of the curriculum. Therefore, children are not provided with sufficient opportunities to learn new knowledge and skills.
- Staff lack knowledge of the areas of learning within the early years foundation stage. Children are not provided with sufficient opportunities to make progress in all areas of learning and development. Interactions with children are limited. Staff do not use opportunities to engage children in purposeful conversations with them or use questioning effectively. Therefore, children do not develop strong communication and language skills. Children's personal, social and emotional development is not supported. Staff do not build responsive relationships with children, and some children are very unsettled or upset at nursery.

- Staff do not make assessments of children's development. Therefore, they are not knowledgeable enough about what children know or can do. Staff have not completed the statutory progress check for children at age two. This means they are not alert to children who may be falling behind and are unable to support children to close gaps in their learning. Planning is ineffective. Activities provided for children do not sufficiently challenge their learning and help them make progress in their development.
- The key-person system is not effective. Key persons do not have a sufficient knowledge and understanding of children's individual needs. Partnerships with parents do not encourage a two-way flow of information. This means that children's care and education are not tailored to meet their individual needs.
- There is not enough support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff do not know enough about children's individual needs or development. They do not identify clear targets to help children make progress. Activities do not meet these children's individual needs. Where children receive additional funding, including early years pupil premium, this is not used appropriately to help close gaps in their learning. Therefore, these groups of children are not supported to reach their potential.
- Children generally behave well. They play alongside each other and share resources. However, on occasions where children show challenging behaviour, it is not managed in an appropriate way. Children are told that their parents will be informed, and belongings will be removed from them if they do not conform with expectations. This does not teach children how to regulate their own behaviour and may have an adverse effect on their well-being.
- Managers do not provide effective supervision for staff. They are not competent in identifying weaknesses in teaching. Therefore, the support staff receive from managers is not improving their personal effectiveness. This means that the ability to improve the overall quality of provision is limited.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Managers and staff have insufficient knowledge of how to keep children safe. They have failed to identify and respond to information of a safeguarding nature in an appropriate or timely manner. Child protection records are unclear. Managers do not understand the procedures to follow if an allegation is made against a member of staff. The nursery does not have clear child protection policy and procedures to follow. The premises do not remain secure at all times. This means that children are not protected from being able to leave the nursery unsupervised, and unauthorised persons cannot be prevented from entering. Staff do not identify and respond to risks to children's safety, including water spillages that pose a slip hazard and first-floor windows at child height that can be opened fully. This means a child could fall through it.

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
improve the knowledge and understanding of all staff and managers of how to identify and respond to any issues of concern in a child's life at home or elsewhere	02/07/2021
improve the knowledge and understanding of all staff and managers of the procedures to follow to report information of a safeguarding nature to other professionals in a timely manner	02/07/2021
implement an effective policy and procedures to safeguard children which are in line with local guidance and procedures	02/07/2021
ensure that the named lead practitioner for safeguarding has completed an appropriate training course that enables them to identify, understand and respond to signs of possible abuse and neglect	02/07/2021
ensure that the named lead practitioner for safeguarding fully understands their role and responsibilities in order to provide support, advice and guidance to staff and to safeguard all children	02/07/2021
improve knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff	02/07/2021
improve knowledge and understanding of how to maintain clear and sufficiently detailed records, with particular regard to information and records of a safeguarding nature	02/07/2021

provide support for all staff to undertake appropriate training and professional development opportunities to ensure they offer quality learning and development experiences for all children	02/07/2021
provide all staff with effective supervision that focuses on support, coaching and training to improve their personal effectiveness and includes opportunities to discuss any issues concerning children's development or well-being	02/07/2021
ensure that key persons have a sufficient knowledge and understanding of every child in order to provide tailored care to meet their individual needs and build relationships with their parents	02/07/2021
ensure that children's behaviour is managed in an appropriate way to support their well-being	02/07/2021
ensure that the premises remain secure at all times to prevent children from being able to leave unsupervised or unauthorised persons entering the nursery	02/07/2021
improve the risk assessment to ensure that all risks to children's health and safety are identified and action is taken to remove or minimise risks in a timely manner	02/07/2021
ensure that there are effective arrangements in place to support children with SEND	02/07/2021
improve the two-way flow of information with parents and carers to help ensure that the needs of all children are met	02/07/2021
ensure that appropriate insurance is in place that covers the premises where childcare is provided.	02/07/2021

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

	Due date
improve knowledge and understanding of how and when to undertake the progress check at age two, in order to provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development in the prime areas of learning	23/07/2021
ensure that practitioners use assessment effectively to understand children's level of achievement, interests and learning styles, in order to shape effective learning experiences for children	23/07/2021
improve the use of planning to provide challenging and enjoyable experiences for every child which take account of their individual needs, interests and stage of development, to support them in making progress in their learning and development	23/07/2021
improve the educational programmes so that children are provided with opportunities and experiences to make progress in all areas of learning and development	23/07/2021
provide support for children who speak English as an additional language, so that staff are able to respond to them and meet their individual needs.	23/07/2021

Setting details

Unique reference number	2557087
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	10197727
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	Blueberry Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2557086
Telephone number	07905570308
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Blueberry Day Nursery Limited registered in 2019 and is located in West Bromwich. The nursery operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. There are three members of childcare staff employed. Of these, one holds an appropriate qualification at level 6 and two hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lisa Bennett

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the 2020-21 COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk to gather information about how the provision and curriculum are organised.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and gave their views of the nursery.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors to assess the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process

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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