

Inspection of Smart Play Hounslow

Sutton Lane Community Centre, 14-16 Moulton Avenue, Hounslow TW3 4LR

Inspection date:

24 June 2021

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

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety and well-being are compromised at the setting because the provider does not follow adequate safeguarding practices, policies and procedures. This means that concerns about children's welfare may not be identified by staff or managed appropriately.

The provider and staff have continued to keep in touch with children and their families via video calls during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. This has helped children transition back to the setting with ease. Staff greet and warmly welcome all children as they arrive happily in the morning.

Children play outdoors and develop their physical skills as they go up and down a slide. They play with their friends as they kick, roll, throw and catch balls. They jump and hop through a tyre obstacle course. Children learn social etiquette and manners, as staff remind and encourage them to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Older children are caring and play with younger children. Staff support children to learn and practise their independence skills as they go to the toilet independently, tidy up, take turns and share. This helps them to prepare for the next stage in their learning. Although the provider has an adequate understanding about the curriculum and what she wants children to learn, this is not consistently implemented and does not always transpire in practice because some staff are new to their role. This means children's learning is sometimes incidental.

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

- There have been some recent changes in the senior management team and some of the staff team do not know the children well enough to support their individual learning needs. They are not aware of how to identify and manage welfare concerns, should these arise.
- The provider meets the requirements for the number of adults working with children. However, staffing arrangements are not sufficient to support all the children's varying needs. This means that some children do not benefit from the additional support they need. Staff are over-stretched and, although they try to give children individual attention, they are not able to. This means that some children do not persevere in their play and lose interest.
- Children learn about similarities and differences between each other and the world around them. They learn about different countries, maps and celebrations of different festivals. For example, children celebrate Christmas and Eid. They learn about Sikhism and 'langer' (food) served at Gurdwara. However, the provider does not consistently consider in her planning the appropriateness of how some practices and experiences are shared.
- Parents report that they have found the communication during national

lockdowns useful for continuity of care and learning for their children. They trust and have confidence in staff. However, children do not always eat healthily at the setting. The provider does not supply information for parents about healthy lunch box ideas in order to promote children's health and well-being.

- The provider is developing her skills in self-evaluation and recognises the need to reflect on her practice and learn from significant events. She has links with and support from the local authority early years team in helping her to develop her knowledge and practice further.
- Children learn about appropriate hygiene practices. For example, staff help children to sanitise their hands and their shoes and monitor their temperature as they come in to the setting. Children learn about the importance of keeping their hands clean. For example, they wash their hands before they sit down to eat.
- Children sing nursery rhymes, use gestures and visual cue cards and enjoy having familiar stories read to them. On some occasions, staff do not expand on children's vocabulary during routines and activities. This limits children's opportunities to develop their communication and language skills.
- The provider carries out suitability checks to ensure staff working with children are suitable. Staff supervise children appropriately to make sure they are within sight and hearing.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Although the provider has a sound understanding of what to do if concerned about children's welfare, she does not ensure that all staff understand the child protection procedures. In addition, the provider lacks awareness of the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against a member of staff. She does not check safety features when posting videos of children on the setting's social media in order to ensure images are only accessible to those who have a right to see them. Furthermore, she does not monitor the safe arrangements for the storage of staff's mobile telephones. These failings are breaches of requirements and compromise children's safety and welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	Due date
improve the curriculum planning and delivery so that all staff understand what they are expected to teach the children and all children benefit from appropriate and well-planned activities	21/07/2021

improve management's and staff's knowledge about child protection issues, how to identify and manage concerns and the reporting procedures to follow, including what to do when an allegation is made against a member of staff	21/07/2021
work in partnership with parents to ensure children are provided with healthy, balanced and nutritious lunches and snacks.	21/07/2021

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY552801
Local authority	Hounslow
Inspection number	10198094
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Smart Play PVT Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP536608
Telephone number	07956265034
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Smart Play registered in 2017. The setting operates from Sutton Lane community centre in the London borough of Hounslow. The setting operates Monday to Thursday from 9am to 5pm during term time only. There are five staff members, of whom four hold early years qualifications and one is unqualified. The setting provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Seema Parmar

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- This inspection was conducted following Ofsted's risk assessment procedures.
- The inspector observed children with staff indoors and in the outside play area.
- Parents spoke to the inspector, who took into account their views.
- The inspector reviewed documentation, including staff's suitability, qualifications and first aid.
- Staff spoke with the inspector who also conducted a learning walk and joint observation with the manager when it was suitable to do so.

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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