

Inspection of Little Blessings Childcare And Education

226 Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AH

Inspection date: 29 July 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

Children's safety and well-being are significantly compromised. Staff do not risk assess the areas and equipment before children use them, particularly outdoors. They leave resources, such as water and sand trays uncovered overnight. As a result, children access stagnant water which poses a risk to their health through cross-contamination. Children do not receive adequate supervision from staff. This has a negative impact on their learning, behaviour and attitudes. For instance, when children become bored and restless, they engage in inappropriate behaviours, such as climbing through the fencing gate or onto a chair. These behaviours pose a risk of injury to children. When children show an interest in an activity, such as painting, staff leave children to attend to other matters. This does not support children's emotional well-being adequately. Staff do not teach children good hygiene practices. For example, they expect all children to wash their hands in the same bowl of water after play. Staff are also not consistent in teaching children to wash their hands before handling food. These practises do not promote children's good health. Staff do not engage children sufficiently enough during activities to help them gain the skills they need for the next steps in their education. Overall, they use limited language when communicating with children. This does not sufficiently develop children's vocabulary. Children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, do not make adequate progress from their various starting points. However, children show they are happy in the company of staff and their peers.

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

- The risk assessment procedures are weak. The manager and staff do not check the areas and equipment before children access them, to ensure all hazards have been identified and removed. This exposes children to unnecessary risks.
- Staff deployment is ineffective. As a result, staff are unable to supervise children to ensure they are safe at all times. For example, they fail to see when toddlers climb onto a chair, posing a risk of injury to themselves and others.
- Staff's knowledge of good hygiene practices is poor. This means children do not learn about germs and how to protect themselves from infectious illnesses. This does not promote children's good health.
- The monitoring of staff's practice is insufficient. Although the manager offers staff some coaching and training, these have been ineffective to help them carry out their roles and responsibilities confidently.
- Staff have a poor knowledge of how to observe and assess children's learning. This hinders their ability to plan a stimulating and challenging curriculum for all children. Consequently, babies wander aimlessly in the garden because there are no well-planned activities for them. When they show an interest, such as in sand play, staff tell children they cannot play with this because it is too wet. This does

not motivate children to play. Group activities for toddlers and pre-school children are often unimaginative and mundane. In turn, they quickly become bored and restless.

- The progress checks for children between the ages of two and three years are not completed within the required timeframe. This delay does not ensure that staff identify any support children may need to help with their learning.
- Generally, staff manage children's behaviour appropriately. They set suitable expectations for children to take turns and share toys. However, children's behaviour deteriorates due to lack of stimulation and challenge. For instance, children shout and distract others when they become bored and restless.
- Children have daily opportunities outdoors for fresh air and exercise. Toddlers and pre-school children show some confidence while completing an obstacle course. This helps to develop children's agility and coordination
- Children develop some independence skills. For instance, they have a go at feeding themselves at mealtimes.
- The setting's self-evaluation is weak. The new manager has failed to identify all weaknesses and actions taken to improve the setting have been insufficient. That said, the manager expressed a willingness to address the concerns identified at this inspection.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There are serious weaknesses in leadership and management which compromise children's safety and well-being. There are poor risk assessment procedures in place and staff are not vigilant enough in their supervision of children. Staff do not promote effective hygiene practices to minimise risks to children's health. However, there are appropriate procedures to check the suitability of staff. Staff have a suitable knowledge of how to identify the signs that children might be at risk of harm, including if they are being influenced by extremist views. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's welfare.

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
improve risk assessment procedures to ensure children are not exposed to unnecessary risks, particularly in the garden area	16/09/2021

ensure staff are deployed well so that children are adequately supervised, and their needs are met at all times, particularly in the garden area and at mealtimes	16/09/2021
improve staff's knowledge of good hygiene practices and ensure these are followed consistently to reduce the risk of cross-infection and promote children's good health	16/09/2021
implement effective and regular staff supervision to ensure they receive good levels of support, coaching and training to improve the quality of education	16/09/2021
improve staff's knowledge of how to make effective use of observations and assessments to plan and provide suitably engaging activities that meet all children's individual needs, so that they consistently make progress	16/09/2021
ensure the progress check for two-year-old children is completed in a timely manner.	16/09/2021

Setting details

Unique reference number	2515574
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10177192
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Peart, Sandra
Registered person unique reference number	RP901729
Telephone number	07890313020
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Blessings Childcare And Education registered in 2019 and is located in the London Borough of Croydon. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday. There are 10 staff members. Of these, one has a childcare qualification at level 6 and three staff members have a childcare qualification at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years-old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

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 has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process carried out by Ofsted. The inspector spoke with the management team and discussed how they evaluate their provision and target improvements.
- The inspector completed a learning walk with the manager across all areas of the setting to understand the setting's curriculum and how staff implement this. They carried out a joint observation of an activity and evaluated the impact this has on children.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors. She spoke with staff and interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents spoke with the inspector on the telephone to share their views on the setting.

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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