

# Inspection of Ark Private Day Nursery

490 Halifax Road, Bradford BD6 2LH

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Inspection date: 28 September 2021

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

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is inadequate**

The quality of education is poor. Some staff do not have a secure understanding of child development. Children are not provided with stimulating activities that meet their needs or stages in learning. They are not often challenged during play and do not always show interest in tasks. When children find toys they enjoy, they are happy to play and confident to interact with staff and other children. They play cooperatively and behave well, learning simple rules and routines within the setting. Children are rewarded and praised when they are kind or follow expected boundaries.

Leaders have not taken steps to ensure all areas are safe for children. Staff have not been effectively supported to recognise and remove hazards before children access the environment. For example, on inspection, children accessed the outdoor area where equipment was full of stagnant water. Additionally, babies were able to peel paint off wooden toys and put this to their mouths.

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are involved in all activities. Leaders and staff have worked hard to provide inclusive practice. These children receive close support from staff. Their needs are met and they enjoy being part of all aspects of play.

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

- Leaders have failed to recognise gaps in staff's knowledge of safeguarding, risk management, and child development. They do not identify staff's individual training needs or areas for improvement within practice. As a result, staff do not fulfil their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe and helping them make good progress.
- Although leaders have a clear curriculum delivery plan for all children, staff do not embed this into practice. They are not confident to identify expected stages of development for children's ages and progress levels. Staff do not know what they want children to know next within all areas of learning. Staff's plans for progress are weak and do not reflect key areas of the curriculum.
- The majority of staff do not provide challenge to children during play. They do not know exactly what to teach children, or when to teach it. During play, some staff often miss opportunities to allow children thinking time. They ask children questions in quick succession, which gives children little time to interpret information and respond. Additionally, they ask closed questions or answer questions on children's behalf. This has an impact on children's language development.
- Parents and carers see the setting as a caring place for children to attend. Leaders have taken steps to ensure communication is consistent, and

information is shared. They make sure parent's and carer's feedback is acknowledged and used to develop what the setting has to offer.

- Children enjoy songs and stories within their play. Older children develop literacy skills. They attempt to use their knowledge of sounds and letters and write words independently. Children are proud of their achievements and receive praise from staff. They show good levels of self-esteem.
- Children enjoy exploring their environments, both indoor and outside. Although their safety is, occasionally, compromised, children's health and hygiene is supported. Children enjoy well-balanced meals. Their individual care needs are met. Children sleep in safe spaces and have their own bedding to avoid the spread of infection.
- Leaders have created links with external agencies, such as the early intervention team for children and families, to help those who may need close support. Additionally, children visit settings, such as a local care home. They spend time with elderly residents and enjoy creative activities with them. Children learn about others in their community.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Leaders and managers do not have a secure understanding of the key indicators of child abuse or what to do in the event of a safeguarding concern. Overall, staff have limited knowledge of signs and symptoms of abuse and wider safeguarding issues, such as extreme behaviours or exploitation. Additionally, staff's understanding of risks in the environment is poor. There are sufficient staff who hold a relevant paediatric first-aid qualification.

## 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:**

	<b>Due date</b>
ensure all areas of the environment are safe prior to children accessing them	30/10/2021
ensure all staff have secure and up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding and the procedure to follow if a child is at risk	30/10/2021
implement effective supervision strategies to identify and address staff's development needs that will improve their practice the most	30/12/2021

accurately assess and understand children's development stages and needs, in all areas of learning	30/12/2021
provide challenge for children during play to strengthen learning across the curriculum.	30/12/2021

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY555858
<b>Local authority</b>	Bradford
<b>Inspection number</b>	10174731
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	50
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	53
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Ark Day Nursery
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP555857
<b>Telephone number</b>	01274 418 981
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

The Ark Private Day Nursery registered in 2017. The nursery employs 18 members of staff. All of these hold early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 7am until 6pm, all year round, except for one week at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two- three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Rachel Waterhouse

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and the inspector had a learning walk of the areas used by the children and discussed the setting's aims.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and the children and reviewed the impact on the quality of education for children.
- Parents' views were taken account of by the inspector.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and children's records.

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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